POPULAR MECHANICS

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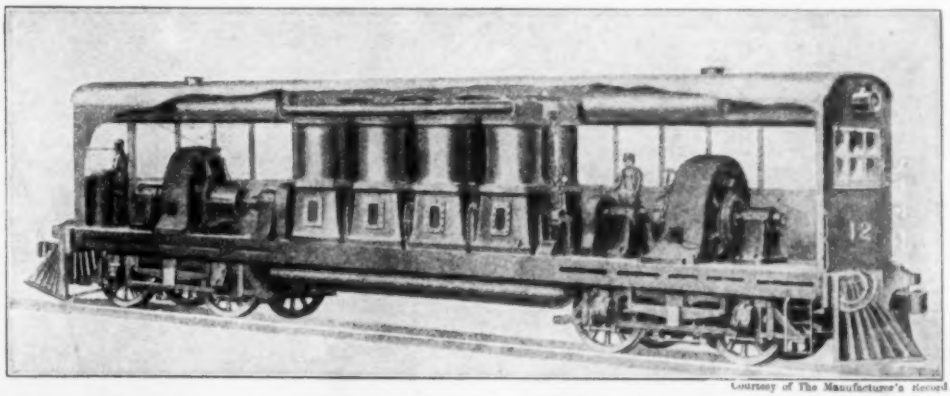
Locomotive Without Fire or Water

Would Make Crossing the Continent Without Stopping Possible.

A locomotive without water, fire or smoke, unencumbered by the five tons of coal and 7,000 gallons of water usually carried by the steam engine; drawing no tender, but provided instead with an engine for generating electricity; a clean, strong powerful engine drawing a 2,000-ton train and speeding across the continent from New York to San Francisco, without stop or delay, and at the average rate of 100 miles per hour—this is a dream of modern traction, worked out theoretically with mathematical precision, now being constructed for the Southern Pacific Railroad and soon to be put to the practical test of a long trial run.



Courtesy of The Manufacturer's Record

The Dream of Modern Traction--Showing Interior of Locomotive.

It is generally accepted by railroad managers that the limit has been reached in steam locomotive construction. One axiom in this line has been "a pound of weight to carry a pound of weight." Locomotives have gained 100,000 pounds in weight in the last five years, and tender capacity has been increased accordingly. Of the fuel consumed by the steam locomotive 96 per cent of the energy produced passes up the smokestack, 4 per cent goes to the boilers, and 2½ per cent only to the driving wheels. A writer in one of our daily papers states:

"Driving wheels can be made just so large and no larger. Connecting rods can be made just so long and no longer. If the driving wheels are giant affairs it means a tremendous weight to the machine that must come on the tracks in a comparatively small space. There is one way to 'spread the weight,' and that is to have longer connecting rods. But here a difficulty is encountered. Tractive power necessary for high speed or great draught cannot be obtained if the rods are much over 12½ feet. This fact has put steam locomotive builders between the devil of big wheels and the deep sea of the short connecting rod. If the steam locomotive could be made more compact, greater power could be obtained, but, on the other hand, the weight would be so concentrated that there is not a curve in the roadbed or a bridge on the line that could stand the strain."

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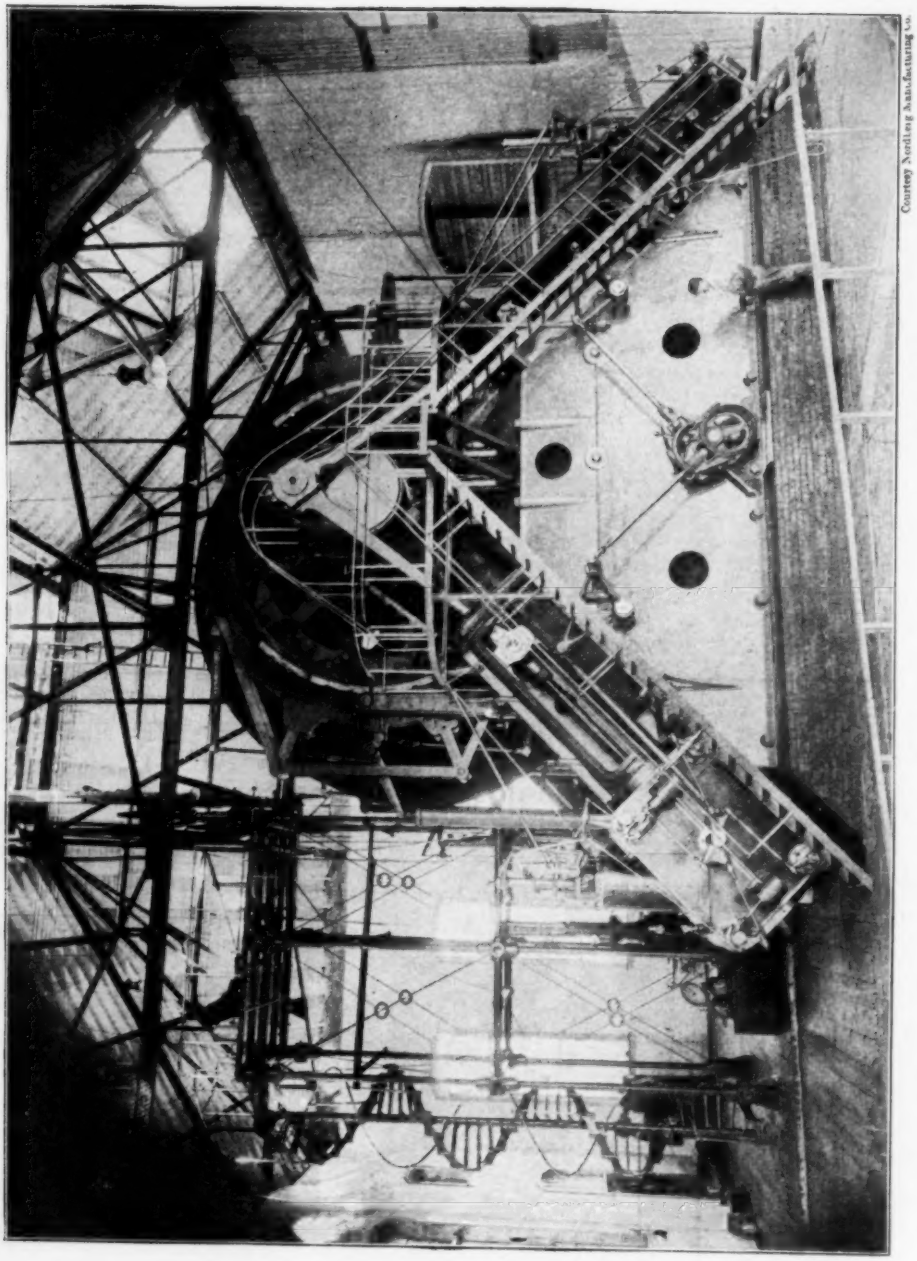


Courtesy Nordberg Manufacturing Co.

5,000 Horse-Power Hoisting Engine for Tamarack Mine—Weight 1,200,000 Lbs.

In the proposed new locomotive an internal combustion engine, which heretofore has been applied to stationary engine work only, will be used to drive a dynamo providing electric power for the locomotive. The internal combustion engine has a thermal efficiency of 38 per cent. There is a loss in the transfer to the generator and armatures, but 28.35 per cent of the energy "gets on to the motor and axles." In other words, the new locomotive is expected to save more than eleven times as much energy as the steam locomotive.

The principle of the new engine is summed up as follows:

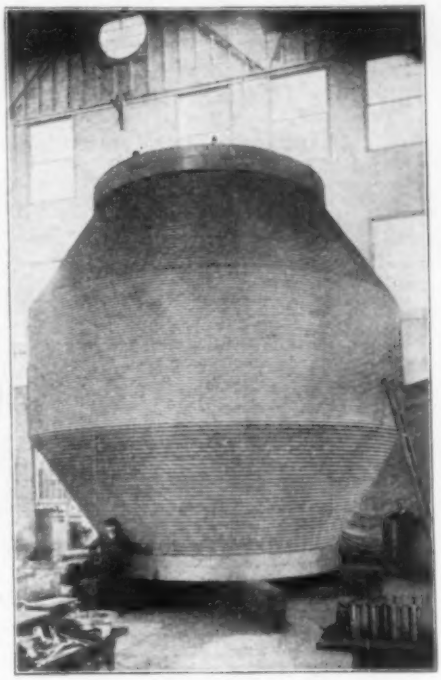
"Its action is on what is known as the four-stroke cycle. There is a compressed air reservoir, from which the power is obtained for starting. This gives the piston its first stroke when it takes in air—air alone at atmospheric pressure and temperature. The second stroke compresses this air to a high pressure and to a temperature of about 1,000° F. The third stroke is what is known as the working stroke. At this point oil is sprayed into this hot incandescent air—one can hardly imagine what 1,000° F. means. The amount of oil that is sprayed in is regulated by governors. During the first part of this stroke the combustion of this oil is carried on at a constant pressure for a period which is regulated by the amount of oil sprayed in. The second part of the stroke is practically an expansion without transference of heat. The fourth stroke exhausts the gases.

"The only fuel used is the crude oil that costs from three to five cents a gallon. Petroleum or any kind of crude oil can be employed. The cost per horsepower hour is said to be less than half that for steam."

POWERFUL HOISTING ENGINE USED IN A DEEP MINE.

A 5,000-horsepower hoisting engine intended for lifting a load of something over 41,000 pounds from a depth of 6,000 feet at the rate of 5,000 feet per minute has recently been installed by the Tamarack Mining Co., of Calumet, Mich. The total weight of this powerful machine, which is of the direct acting reversible type, with a drum keyed on the main shaft, is 1,200,000 pounds and the huge drum, which has a capacity for 6,000 feet of 1½-inch rope, with its shaft weighs 300,000 pounds.

Some of the leading dimensions of the engine are: Steam cylinders (four), 34x60 inches; main bearing, 24x42 inches; crankpins, 12x15 inches; crosshead pins, 6½x12½ inches; diameter of rope drum, 25 feet; length of drum, 24 feet 6 inches. The cages used are double decked balanced cages, the empty one descending while the loaded cage is being hoisted. In this operation the load the engine would ordinarily handle consists of 21,000 pounds of rope; cage, 4,200 pounds; two cars, 4,000 pounds; rock, 12,000 pounds, a total of 41,200 pounds. The engine frames are of the hollow girder type, and rest on large cast-iron sub-bases, the whole being fastened to the foundations by rods.

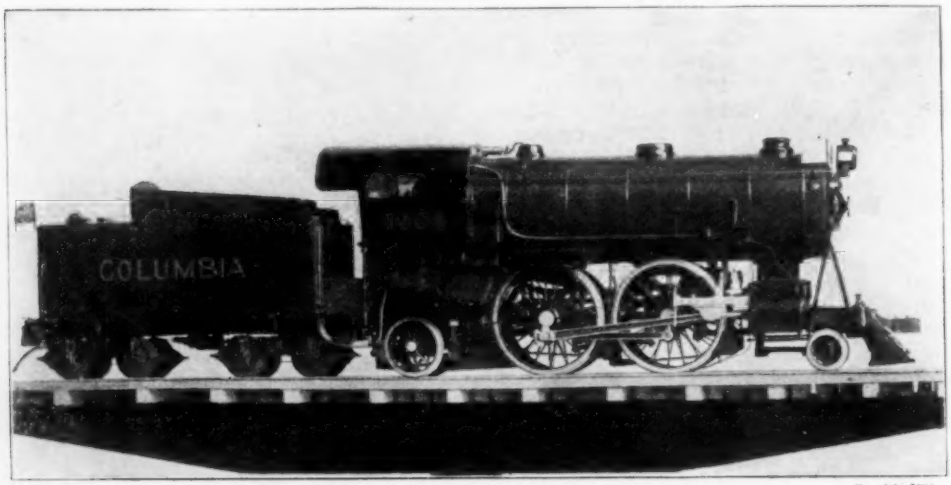


Rope Drum 25 Feet Long

The throttles, reversing gears, cut-off gear and brake are all operated from the platform on which the operator sits, as shown in the illustration. Here also is located the "miniatures" which indicate at all times the position of the cars and from which the safety stop is operated. By means of this safety stop the motion can be arrested and reversed whenever the cages are in danger. There are two sets of powerful brakes, one on each end of the drum. The engine may be run from one turn per minute to 54 turns per minute with an action equally smooth and perfectly controlled.

MODEL OF VERY LARGE LOCOMOTIVE.

One of our readers, who is a railroad official, sends a photograph of a model of a very large "Columbia" type passenger locomotive. The model is made almost entirely of wood, and as shown in the illustration is a very handsome piece of work. In these days of mammoth locomotives the work is extremely interesting as showing the proportions which a machine built on the lines shown would look like. The builder says: "It is built on a scale of 30 inches to the inch, and although I realize it would not be practicable to build a machine of this size, I take delight in showing some of the would-be big engine advocates what the real thing actually looks like."



Copyright 1904.

"What the Real Thing Actually Looks Like'."

The bigness of the thing is better comprehended in the driving wheels, which are 7 feet 10 inches high, and the height to top of boiler, 15 feet 3 inches. To save height the stack is only 1 foot high, and the bell is hung below the boiler. The main dimensions are: Cylinders, 26 x 30 in.; boiler, diameter smallest ring, 84 in.; firebox, length, 70 in.; firebox, width, 90 in.; flues, 460; flues, length, 18 ft.; driving wheels, diameter, 94 in.; trailing wheels, diameter, 52 in.; pony truck wheels, diameter, 33 in.; weight on driving wheels, 145,000 lbs.; weight, total engine, 225,000 lbs.; weight total engine and tender, 340,000 lbs.; height center boiler, 11 ft. 9 in.; height top boiler, 15 ft. 3 in.; height top stack, 16 ft. 3 in.; wheel base driving, 8 ft. 6 in.; wheel base rigid, 18 ft. 5 in.; wheel base, total engine, 29 ft. 4 in.; wheel base, engine and tender, 51 ft. 6 in.; tank capacity, 6,000 gal.; coal capacity, 12 tons.

THE LARGEST TROOPSHIP IN THE WORLD.

The "Dufferin," the largest troopship in the world, was recently launched at Barrow, England. The vessel will accommodate 1,520 persons and in equipment is equal to a first-class liner. Sanitary and ventilating arrangements have been most carefully made and all that would tend toward the comfort and health of the soldiers has been provided, the vessel being model in this respect.

The ship is of the spar deck type, length over all, 453 feet; breadth, 52 feet, 6 inches; moulded depth, 39 feet. It has four complete decks and a boat deck about half its length amidships. It can be made practically unsinkable in a few seconds by closing the water-tight compartments into which it is divided under the main deck. These are controlled from the bridge. The propelling machinery, says the Marine Engineer, consists of two sets of inverted, vertical, direct-acting, triple expansion engines, each set having three cylinders, working on separate cranks, and capable of developing 9,400 horsepower at 115 r. p. m.

TRAGIC FATE ENDS "FOOLKILLER NO. III."

Nissen Crosses Lake Michigan in a Furious Storm at Night, but Finds Death on the Farther Shore.

Peter Nissen has met the fate with which he has flirted for years; yet he should not be classed with the ordinary seeker after notoriety. The adventurous blood of the old Norsemen coursed through his viens and impelled him to deeds which other men shuddered to even contemplate.

Peter Nissen

In the July, 1904, Popular Mechanics a detailed description was given of Nissen's balloon-boat, the "Foolkiller No. III," and an account of his first voyage, which for lack of wind, was uneventful. This craft was a mammoth canvas ball 22 feet in diameter and 32 feet long, inflated by means of an air pump. A shaft extended through the center from end to end and from this suspended a swinging cradle in which Nissen sat or reclined.

His expectation in event of a successful voyage across Lake Michigan was to construct a much larger ball, 75 feet in diameter and 115 feet long, which was to be taken to the extreme limit of northern travel, and then used in rolling to the North Pole. His theory was that the lightness of the craft when driven by the wind would cause it to go bounding over obstructions many feet high, precisely as a thistledown travels.

Nissen, who was a frequent visitor at this office, called the afternoon before his fatal trip, but it was characteristic of the modesty of the man that he made no mention of the coming trial. Ever since his remarkable trip through the rapids at Niagara he has been offered large sums from amusement managers, but the idea was very repugnant to him, notwithstanding his need of money for experiments. He was a college graduate with honors.

The ill-fated trip was made on November 29, during a furious winter gale blowing from the west. The storm was so severe that steamers due to leave this port dared not venture out. He entered the ball about 4 o'clock just as dusk came on. The opening was sealed to make it air tight, and at the word from within the ball was released and rolled rapidly down the sea wall and in a few minutes was well out at sea. Nissen carried provisions for two days, but removed his overcoat as he entered the ball. He declined assistance from a passing tug two miles out. At midnight the gale was blowing nearly 50 miles an hour and the cold was intense.

Two days later the frozen body of Nissen and the remains of the ball were found tossing in the surf of the east shore 100 miles from Chicago. He had evidently made the crossing in safety, but the ball had failed to roll out of the water up on to the shore, and the intrepid inventor after cutting his way out of the balloon and in an exhausted condition had been unable to stand against the breakers, and so perished in the surf.

To provide for the natural deflation of the ball through leakage, and also to supply

This Picture Shows the Start of the July Trip of Nissen—Leaving Chicago Harbor—It was in the Same Ball that Nissen Lost His Life.

fresh air to breathe after 15 hours' occupation, an air pump was attached within the ball connected through a small hose to the outside. Something happened to the hose, for in his pocket was found a card on which were written the words "Air hose has broken. N."

It is believed the reason the ball failed to roll out of the lake onto land was on account of its being deflated to perhaps one-half its normal size. The funeral, in Chicago, was attended by 4,000 persons.

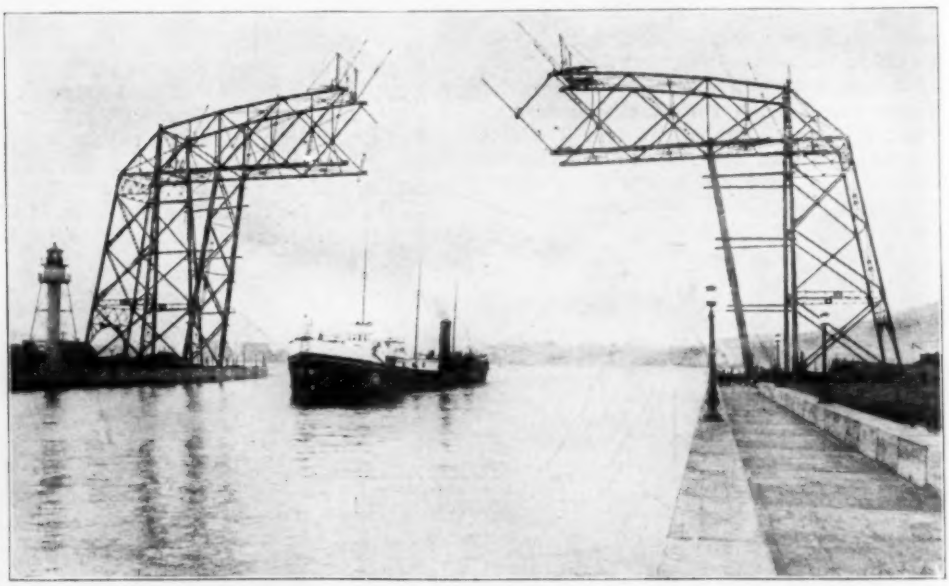
DULUTH AERIAL FERRY.

Only One in America—One of Five in the World—Suspended Ferry Carries Street Cars, Vehicles and Pedestrians.

The great aerial ferry in Duluth will be placed in commission this month. Nearly a year has been spent in construction and erection. It is the only structure of its kind in America, and one of only five in the world. The others are at Newport, England; Rouen, France; Bizerte, Tunis, and at Nantes, France, over the Loire. These ferries were fully described in Popular Mechanics for March, 1904.

The purpose of the aerial ferry is to afford nearly all the advantages of a bridge without any of its disadvantages to shipping. This ferry crosses the Duluth ship canal, where a center pier swing bridge would impede navigation. In the aerial ferry a huge steel trussed superstructure spans the channel, the distance between the towers being 393 feet. Tracks are laid on the bridge span on which run trucks from which depend 1½-inch steel cables, which in turn suspend the car or ferry. The distance from water line to the lower beam of the span is 185 feet, which enables vessels to pass below with clearance for their main masts. The only false work used is the support under the first section of the towers.

The car or ferry is moved from tower to tower by electric motors in the trucks running on the overhead tracks, but controlled by an operator on the ferry below. The ferry swings clear of the water and a few feet above, and the floor is on a level with the city streets. Space is provided for several wagons or vehicles, or one double-truck street car, and cabins at each side are fitted with seats for passengers. The ferry car will carry 300 persons. The ferry is at all times under the control of the operator by means of a controller similar to that used on street cars. The trip is made at a speed of about four miles an hour, and a load up to 50 tons can be carried. The bridge is built to withstand a wind velocity of 70 miles an hour, and cost $100,000.



Ships Pass Under the Ferry Without Delay

MEASURED SERVICE METERS FOR TELE PHONE PATRONS.

Individual measured-service meters for telephone users are becoming quite popular the meter being always an arbiter of peace, and settling all disputes in a manner satisfactory to both parties. Our illustration shows the simple apparatus which is placed in the subscriber's station and which registers each call as it is made. The device works as follows:

When a connection is made, the subscriber calling pulls a lever which throws a buzz over the wire and notifies the operator of the call. The call is also shown on the face of the meter.

The record of the meter is read at the end of a stated period. To do this the central office places its machine in connection with the subscriber's meter and the subscriber is called and asked to turn a crank. This operation takes a statement of the

The Patron's Instrument

number of calls since last reading on a tape by Morse code at the central office. The whole apparatus is completely under control of the telephone company and can be attached without extra wiring. The maintenance cost, says the Western Electrician, is very slight and one portable statement-taker will do the work for an entire exchange.

UNSINKABLE LIFE-BOATS.

An unsinkable life-boat, unsinkable even though seriously damaged, is the product of a Danish inventor, and several important features are claimed for the new craft.

This life-boat consists of a boat-shaped pontoon of wood or iron, strongly constructed, and filled with kapok, a product of plants growing in Java and Sumatra, said to combine the greatest floating capacity with the least weight and able to sustain thirty-five times its weight in water. The kapok is contained in water-tight cushions which in turn are placed in water-tight compartments. Upon this bouyant layer is mounted a superstructure which can be folded down or erected. This is surrounded by a fender filled with kapok in water-tight cushions. In extending the boat, cross

Unsinkable Lifeboat Extended for Use

beams are lifted in and the oars are released, an oval-shaped thwart with cross-thwarts slides into position, and stanchions and other parts drop into their places automatically, making a reliable boat containing bread and water-tanks.

Exhaustive tests have been made of the Englehardt unsinkable life-boat, as it is called, and it has stood successfully every one. It is compact for carrying on vessels, where space occupied is an important consideration, and if a ship were to sink suddenly these boats would only need be cut from their lashings and would be

The Boat Folded.

found floating after such disaster, still fit for use and easily accessible by those in danger of perishing. The boats can, moreover, be readily transported to any part of a ship and launched without davits.

The ordinary lifeboats take up so much deck space that it is impossible to carry enough for passengers and crew, and as a consequence the boats are apt to be overcrowded and swamped.

CONSTRUCTING A TALL STEEL SMOKE-STACK.

In our illustration is shown an exciting stage in the construction of a tall steel stack—the erection of the last section. This

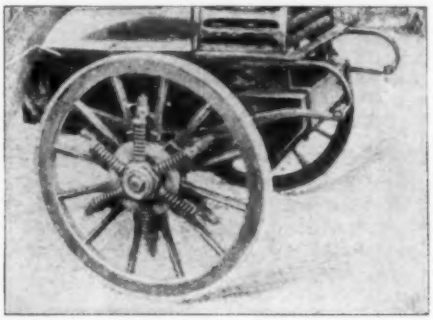
The Critical Moment.

stack is on the power house of the Fond du lac-Oshkosh Interurban Railway and is 140 feet high and eight feet in diameter. The brick stack near it is 120 feet high and seven feet in diameter.

STEEL TIRES AND SPRING WHEELS FOR AUTOMOBILES.

The solution of punctured rubber automobile tires is announced by an invention which replaces rubber tires with steel, and provides the same resiliency by means of coil springs at the hub.

The hubs of the new wheels are made of cast steel, with hickory spokes and white oak felloes. The inner hub has a wide projecting flange which runs into the outer hub and is held in place by a screwed steel ring, this makes a running fit to the metal flange and prevents all side thrust. Fastened to the outer hub are six square bolts the threaded ends of which, with their nuts, hold steel saddles in position. On the outer side of the spokes these saddles carry two spiral springs whose opposite ends are fastened to the inner hub. The springs are held at both ends by lugs and if a spring breaks the nuts may be taken off and the spring readily replaced, the cost of a new spring being about 15 cents. Steel tires are very durable and economical, but make considerable noise. Wheels may be equipped instead with channel iron in which is laid ¾-inch hydraulic packing. Such a tire is



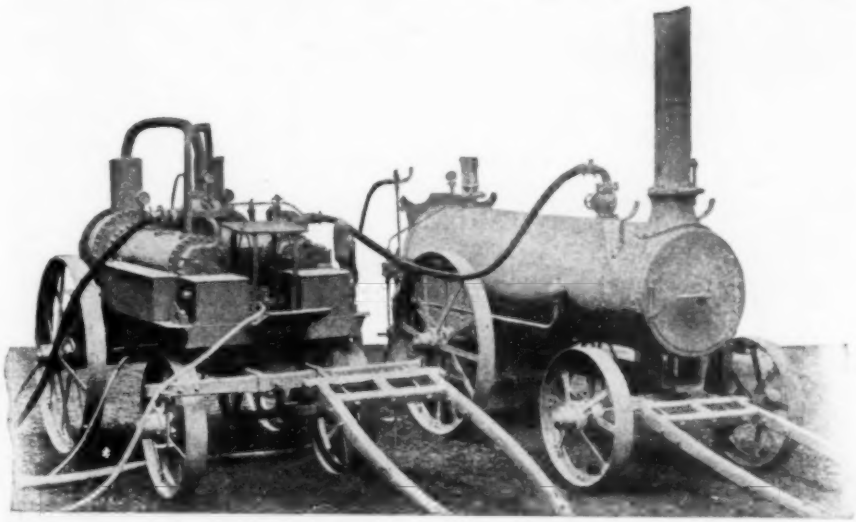
Hub Springs Replacing Rubber Tires.

noiseless, has great adhesion and the cost is less than that of solid rubber. The firm making these wheels guarantees them to be as resilient as any wheel with a pneumatic tire. If the new wheels stand the test of time and use, automobiling will be relieved of a few of its difficulties.

The number of telegrams sent daily throughout the world reaches the enormous total of 14,000,000, not including 36,000 cable messages, according to George Johnson, official Canadian statistician.

PORTABLE WATER DISTILLING PLANTS.

The most important requirement for preserving the health of the human body is a sufficient supply of pure water for drinking and cooking purposes. Especially is this true in arid regions or in low swamp country where one is apt to drink death with a cup of such water as is obtainable there. Often in these places large gangs of men are employed, the labor of every one of whom is indispensable. This is the field into which the invention shown in our illustration will enter and be found most welcome.



Produces 65 Gallons of Pure Distilled Water Per Hour

This plant will convert undrinkable brine or any other impure water into the health-giving fluid at a rate of 65 gallons pure product per hour, not including the condensed "boiler steam" or "drip" from first shell.

The apparatus while working requires very little attention. The process is much as follows:

The impure feed-water (drawn from the condensed overflow) is pumped through a feed-heater, and is heated by the drip-water from shell of first vessel, on its way to the latter, where it passes through a series of tubes exposed on the outside to steam from the boiler. The steam rising from the impure water passes from the separator to the second shell where it heats the impure water contained in the tubes of the second vessel—this impure water being continuously discharged from the separator of the first vessel into tubes of the second, owing to the difference in pressure in the two vessels or effects. The steam from this last effect, along with the drip-water from the second shell, passes direct to the condenser, and is discharged as pure distilled water. If the local water is unfit for boiler feed purposes the drip-water—or "boiler steam condensed"—from the first shell after passing through the feed heater, discharges into the boiler-feed tank, and is pumped back into the boiler. If fit for boiler-feed purposes the drip from the first shell is used for heating in the second shell and goes to further increase the quantity of distilled water.

The steam boiler, which is of the portable, "loco-tubular" type, is suitable for a working pressure of 80 to 100 pounds per square inch. The fire box is extra large, suitable for burning wood, which would be, in many localities, the only fuel available, or at any rate, the most convenient fuel.

This type of distiller is made in three sizes—28, 47 and 65 gallons of pure distilled water per hour. It is securely mounted on a strong carriage, constructed of light steel framing and suitable for animal haulage. Page's Weekly, London, says the type was especially designed for the use of prospecting and exploring parties, temporary hospitals, and for visiting and supplying fresh water to small mining stations.

Remarkable Tide-Calculating Machine

Wonderful Instrument Which Predicts Tides

Built by the Government, It Performs Calculations of the Most Intricate Nature with Accuracy and Despatch

The Secretary of the Navy desires to order a battleship into a certain harbor on our coast, at a particular hour some day next week. The harbor is entered only by crossing a bar at its mouth where the water is none too deep. He wants to know how many fathoms of water will be on that bar at the time the ship will cross it. There is a machine that can tell him in a few minutes, and whose calculations are absolutely accurate.

There is being built in the instrument shop of the Coast and Geodetic Survey Building in Washington a most intricate and wonderful machine, something that will appoach "thinking mechanism" nearer than any other apparatus owned by the Government. This wonder is a tide-predicting machine, and is a great improvement—made by Mr. E. G. Fischer, chief of the instrument division of the survey—on the original one now in use for this purpose. It already displays a wilderness of wheels, slides, cranks, pins, chains, etc.; is composed of brass (the framework), and weighs several hundred pounds. Before saying more about this it is best to tell something about tides.

In forecasting tides it is necessary first to gather data upon which to work. This is done by observations at tidal stations on coast, lake, river and other shores. By long series of observations of rise and fall of tides, weather conditions and land configurations, the action of the tides is resolved into fairly constant factors for each tidal station. Long series of such observations are necessary because the tides are very complex phenomena, being modified by all influences acting upon the earth from without, as well as by those arising upon the earth itself (such as winds, earthquakes and variations of the atmospheric pressure), by irregularities in the coast line, by the eccentric distribution of the land masses, and by the varying depth of the sea. With this data taken in connection with astronomical conditions—particularly of the sun and moon—it is possible to predict the future condition of the tides.

But this involves a tedious process in hand-work mathematical calculations, which, by the elimination of certain factors governing tides and adoption of other (constant) ones, can be avoided, when a tide-predicting machine is employed. The machine used by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey has nineteen dials on its back, which have to do with as many tidal factors; the latter are indicated on the dials by means of setting pointers, and when an attached crank handle is turned, indicators on five dials on the front of the machine point out the information desired. Of course, the machine is set for each tidal station, and gives high and low water time, height and depth of tides, etc., for dates far ahead.

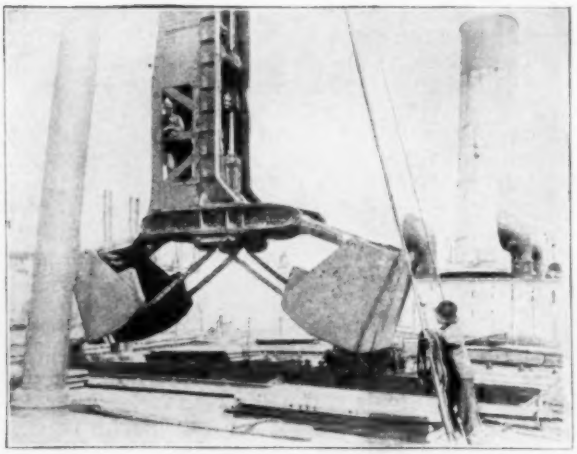
All this is done by the many wheels and shafts of the machine operated by a steel chain that runs upon the pulley at the end of each shaft, also operating simultaneously the pointer-shafts of the front dials. This machine does the work of forty computers. It costs $3,500.

The new tide-predicting machine will be far superior to the one described. It will have to do with thirty-nine factors of a tide instead of nineteen, giving besides time of high and low tides and their depth and height, the state of the tide at any hour. In addition to increased advantage in the sight-reading dials the new machine will plot the tidal curves on paper, and in time it is possible that added mechanism will automatically turn out printed tidal information. As above mentioned the tide-predicting machine is operated by means of a crank—hand-power. The new machine will be run by clock-work. The chain and pulley feature will be much the same in both the mechanical predictors.

It is rather a wonderful machine which takes facts and figures on its back and displays the solved problems on its front faces. The new mechanical wonder will do more. It will accomplish several things at one time—carry on two summations—one of which, at any instant, will denote the height of the tide or surface of the water, while the other will determine the time of high or low water and trace tidal curves. In other words, by looking at the face of the machine at any particular time the true height of the tide can be read off at once and times of high and low water will be given as they occur. The tracing of the tidal curves while the predictions are going on will be a valuable feature of the machine's work, for if any peculiarities or uncertainties are involved in the tide the record can be consulted.

Ore Unloaded Automatically

Big Clam-Shell Buckets Unload Ten Tons at a Single Operation--Make Big Reduction in Cost of Handling Ore



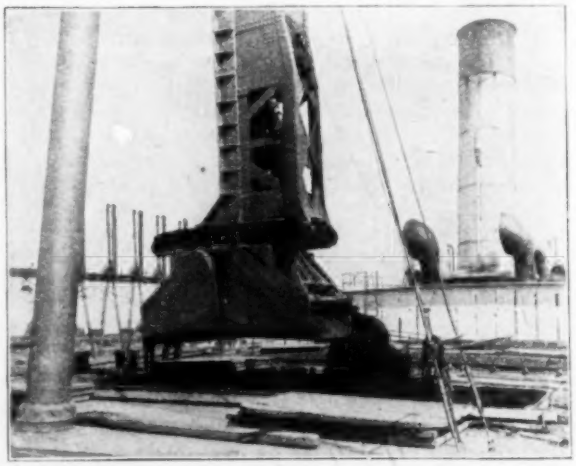
Clam-Shell Bucket Open

A few years ago had that monstrous fresh-water vessel, the "Augustus B. Wolvin," been in existence and landed at any lake port with a full cargo of bulk material, it would have required a period of time to unload the vessel entirely disproportionate to the admirable mechanical equipment of that Great Lakes' pride. For the cubical capacity of the "A. B. Wolvin" is about 500,000 cubic feet, equal to 401,000 bushels of grain or 12,500 tons of coal.

The "A. B. Wolvin" is almost automatic in every feature and yet the ponderous new machine which unloaded her cargo at Conneaut, Ohio, a short time ago is even more wonderful than the new ship. From the moment at which the steel plate sliding hatch covers, operated by steam engines and shafting, with which the big vessel is fitted, slid back so that the queer clam-shell bucket of the automatic ore unloader might be lowered into the hold, until the moment when the last ton of a cargo of 7,257 gross tons of iron ore was transferred to the railroad cars on shore ready to be carried to the iron-making plants of Pennsylvania, was exactly four and one-half hours—a rate of 1,613 tons unloaded per hour.

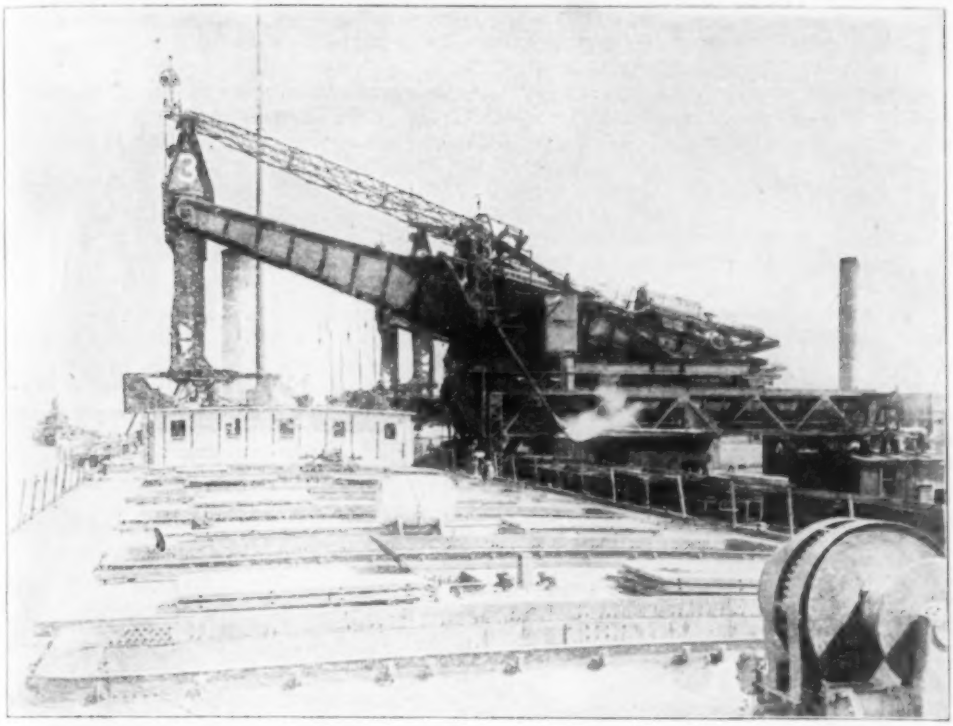
The "A. B. Wolvin" is, however, especially adapted in construction to the use of the ore unloader, and such speedy handling as that mentioned could hardly be maintained with a vessel of different construction. The hold of this vessel is hopper-shaped, that is, with slanting sides, so that the ore to the last ton by the force of gravity is always so disposed within the hold that the clam-shell buckets can readily handle it.

For many years inventors, engineers and experts strove to devise a means by which ore which was conveyed from the mines and loaded on the vessel in a minimum

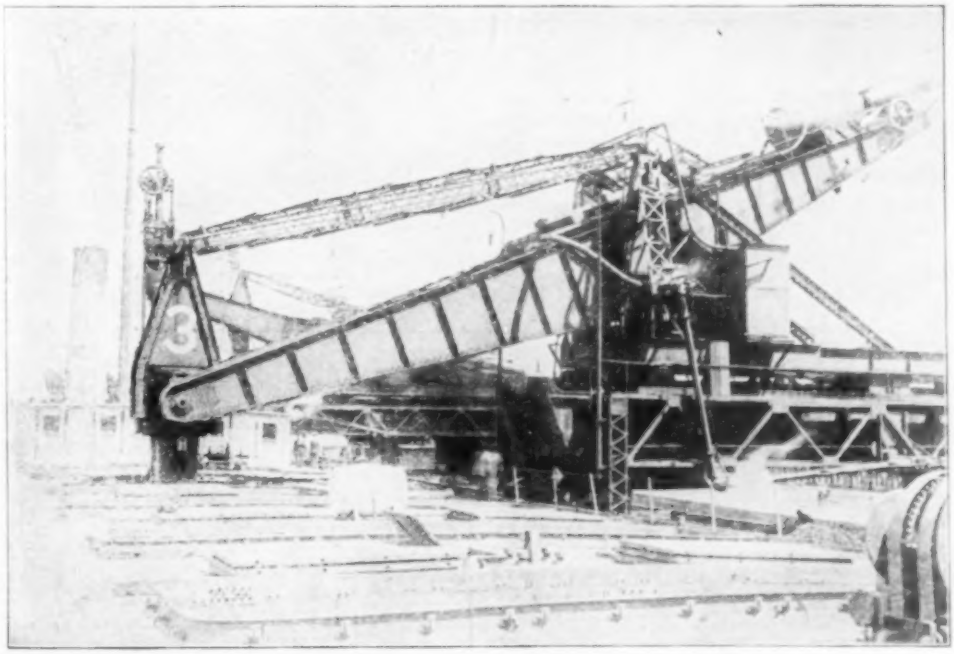


Clam-Shell Bucket Closed

of time could be unloaded in a proportionate time. The ore unloader which was finally successful was the invention of Mr. George H. Hulett, and while others had previously worked along the same lines as those he persisted in, they finally abandoned the idea which he brought to a triumphant success.



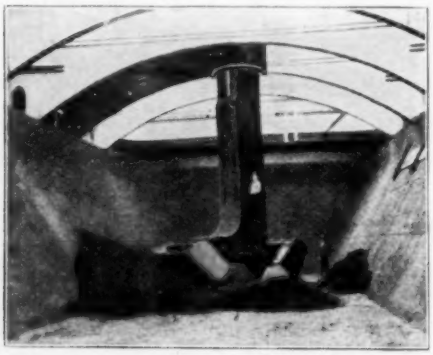
The Bucket Leg with Bucket Open and Ready to be Lowered into Vessel's Hold



How the Bucket is Lowered into the Hold—Showing the Operation of the Walking-Beam

The first ore unloader of this kind was installed on the docks of the United States Steel Corporation at Conneaut, Ohio. A foundation trestle, which is mounted upon wheels, may be moved bodily along the dock to any point required. Its forward end travels on rails which are at the water's edge of the dock. A heavy walking-beam supported on a movable trolley moves backward and forward on the parallel girders of this foundation span and at right angles to the dock. To the end of this walking-beam, which is designed to extend over the vessel to be unloaded, is a depending leg to which is attached the clam-shell bucket which unloads the ore, and which is always kept in a vertical position by the parallel motion.

According as the back end of this walking-beam is pulled down or released, so is the front end raised or lowered, thus raising and lowering the bucket-leg in and out of the hatches of the vessel. The bucket-leg can, of course, be lowered into any hatch of the vessel and the bucket can be rotated in a complete circle. The operator who controls all the operations of the bucket is stationed in the mast or leg just over the big clam-shell.



The Clam-Shell Bucket Scooping its Load in the Hold of the "Augustus B. Wolvin"—Showing Hopper-Shaped Hold

The bucket is carried back and forth, along the girders of the foundation, out over the boat for a load, or back again to deposit it in the empty cars. Large hydraulic cylinders carrying 1,000 pounds water pressure perform all the operations of the machine, except the travel along the dock. The clam-shell bucket has a spread of 18 feet and usually descends into the hold of the vessel half-closed, though in some special cases it is entered open. When spread out below deck its big jaws have a scope one would hardly expect, reaching from the center of one hatch to the center of the other. It can be rotated within the hold, so that practically all the material to be unloaded is within its reach.

Suppose a vessel were in port to be unloaded, the big machine is first moved opposite a hatch and the walking-beam and trolley are run forward so that they reach out over the boat. By slacking off the hoist cables at the rear end of the walking-beam the bucket is lowered until it comes in contact with the ore. After the bucket has secured its load it is then closed by hydraulic power, not only having bored its way into the ore but closing while embedded in it. The back end of the walking-beam is then pulled down again, thus lifting the front end with its load. The trolley runs back, carrying the huge beam up the dock to the waiting cars, into which the ore is discharged, or the ore may be dumped on stock piles at the dock.

All these operations have been under the direct control of the man in the mast, where are grouped all the operating levers. The bucket carries about 10 tons of ore at each grab, and under the least favorable conditions the machine can unload 2,000 tons per day.

The machine, which is a heavy steel structure, the principal members being of plat and girder construction, stands 55 feet in height and weighs 400 tons. It is moved along the dock from hatch to hatch of a vessel, or from vessel to vessel by a pair of engines which are geared to the wheels on each main leg of the structure. It greatly decreases the cost of handling ore, the cost being about nine-tenths less than with hand labor.

BELGIAN GOVERNMENT BUILDS TURBINE STEAMER FOR MAIL SERVICE.

The Belgian government is building a turbine steamer for the Dover-Ostend mail service. The vessel is designed for a speed of 23 knots and will be driven by three Parsons turbines developing 12,000 horsepower. The Marconi system of wireless telegraphy will be installed and will be at the service of the traveling public as well as for official use. The dimensions of the vessel are: Length over all, 357 feet; length between perpendiculars, 344 feet; beam, 40 feet; depth from promenade deck to keel, 23¼ feet; draught, 9¾ feet.

Under-Water Armor for Battleships

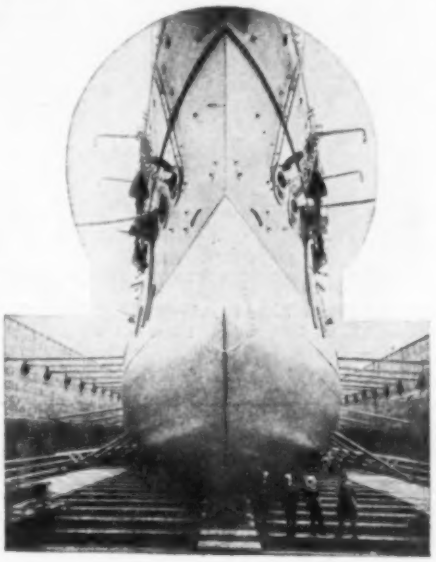
Protection Against Submarine Attacks A Momentous Problem

Submarine weapons of destruction together with accurate long-range gunfire are rapidly dispelling the fond conviction that battleships need no protection below the waterline, the water itself being their best safeguard. In the present war between Russia and Japan it has been observed with a marked uneasiness that the Japanese seriously injured several of the Russian vessels at or below the waterline in long-range firing. The fact is significant. In the great game of nations it is impossible that warships can long retain a single vulnerable point with any degree of safety. Someone will find a means of striking at that spot and striking hard. Already range-finders of a reliable character are making gunfire effective just below the armor plating.

There are many instances where the unarmored bottom of the vessel may be exposed. A vessel having six feet of armor belt extending below the water would be exposed at the unarmored portion of the bottom by a very small angle of inclination in still water, if her stores, ammunition or coals were expended. Rolling and pitching or even a seaway of moderate rise and fall may serve to expose her. Sir William White in the Naval Annual declares that it would be folly to regard the unarmored portions of the bottoms of ships as safe from all attack of gunfire. If it is folly now when there is no gun in existence which can send a projectile any distance under water before it ricochets and goes bounding along the surface with its force expended, how much will that danger be increased if ever the need expressed not long since by a noted admiral be filled: "We want howitzers firing shell at an elevated trajectory, which will explode at a given depth beneath the water."

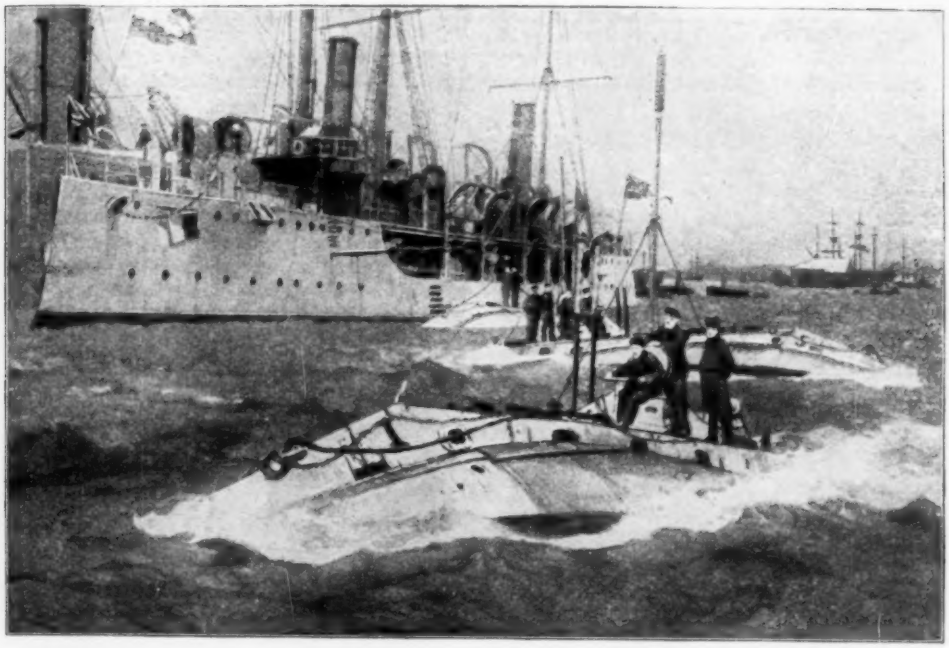
The dangers from gunfire below waterline are, of course, slight when compared with the dangers from under-water attacks by torpedoes, and it is protection of the submerged parts of the vessel from these attacks that is now claiming the most serious attention.

Gunfire is less effective against submarines than it is against battleships below waterline. It may carry away the submarine's periscope so that observations can no longer be made from the little craft, but it cannot damage the boat's power of maneuvering under water. In an essay Commander Murray F. Seuter of the English navy points out just what war vessels have to fear from under-water destructive forces and relates some of the methods of protecting the vessel from these forces.



Battleship in Dry Dock, Showing Hull

The defects of present submarines are low speed, small radius of action, limited range of vision and enervating effect on crews, but with all these defects they are the greatest menace to the war vessel. When the submarine must come to the surface to take bearings, rapid gunfire from a battleship would soon destroy it, but the submarines now in use do not come to the surface. The torpedo boat destroyer is at a disadvantage against the submarine because it offers a large target both to under-water and surface vessels and is soon put out of action by gunfire and the crew are unprotected The method of dealing with the submarine most commonly used is to attach a spar of gun-cotton charge to the quarter of a destroyer, which chases the



Submarine Boats, the Battleship's Greatest Foes, Maneuvering Before the King at Portsmouth, England

submarine as soon as it is sighted. The spar is swung out and when over the submarine it is detonated. This method is only effectual when the submarine is seen. Entanglements by nets or hawsers; injury from a gun-cotton charge; exhaustion of electric batteries; defects to internal mechanism; defects to external gear of diving rudders; bad fumes, producing the collapse of the crew; or a porpoise-like rise and dive to obtain bearings when the periscope has been shot away, these are named as causes for the submarine rising to the surface where it is possible to injure her.

Protection against torpedo attack has become an important consideration in the construction of the war vessel. Numerous methods have been tried to render the vessel proof against a torpedo explosion several feet below the waterline. The British navy now has a 3,000-yard torpedo; the Austrian Government have been experimenting with one having a 3,800-yard range. The torpedo has become the most deadly weapon of warfare. The strongest searchlights have a range of about 2,000 yards; a destroyer 1,800 or even 1,000 yards outside this range has the best of the chances for discharging its torpedo. Commander Seuter declares that "rigid armor plates, with many butting joints and armor bolts, are no defense against the shattering effect of a torpedo." Wing bulkheads, that is, armored inner bottoms fitted a few feet inside the outer skins, which are of thin steel plating, have been tried on some of the modern war vessels, notably the "Cesarevitch," seriously damaged in a Japanese attack on Port Arthur, but this protection is decried because of the danger of water-logging of spaces outside the armor protection, but inside the ship, resulting in serious heeling of the vessel, or, possibly, in absolute instability.

Recently the old British battleship "Belleisle" was sunk in Portsmouth harbor by the explosion of a torpedo under her hull, and so disastrous was the effect of the explosion that it took a month to get the vessel afloat again, although she was only in shallow water. The object of the torpedo experiment was to ascertain whether cellulose material made of corn pith could be relied upon to prevent the inrush of water when a ship had a big hole knocked in her bottom. Accordingly on "Belleisle's" hull, ten feet below waterline, a section had been constructed representing the double bottom of a modern battleship, and this was packed with cellulose. The "Belleisle" was towed to Fareham

creek, in Portsmouth harbor, and a torpedo warhead charged with guncotton exploded under the false bottom by officers of his majesty's ship "Vernon" at the Portsmouth torpedo school. Not only was the false bottom blown to pieces and the cellulose sent high up into the air with the volume of water that followed the explosion, but a big hole was also made in the ship's bottom. The Liverpool Salvage Company undertook to raise her, but the task has been a difficult one, owing to the soft nature of the bottom. As fast as the mud was cleared away to enable the divers to work up the rent, the next tide would bring more mud back. At length a cofferdam was constructed inside the ship, and eight pumps, each capable of discharging great volumes of water, were kept at work, with the result that the old battleship was floated and placed in dry dock. It was evident that she had sustained serious damage, for the vessel had a big list to port as she was being towed across the harbor, and two pumps were discharging an immense volume of water out of her. When the dock had been cleared of water the damaged part of the "Belleisle's" hull was carefully covered up with canvas, so as to prevent unauthorized persons from becoming acquainted with the extent of her injuries.

Water or compressed air protection are recommended by Commander Sueter as the best agents for minimizing the effects of an explosion. He says:

"All compartments should be flooded, and subjected to a severer water pressure test before launching than that now customary. Each compartment should be tested like a tank to resist a water pressure varying from 40 pounds to 50 pounds on the square inch, without undue weeping of rivets. If the design allowed for spaces over the vital parts being filled with water or compressed air when in the vicinity of a coast where danger from submarines or torpedo-boats may be expected, the ship would then suffer the minimum damage by a successful torpedo attack. Ordinarily the compartments would be left empty. The ship would then have a higher freeboard and a higher gun platform for fighting in the open sea. A saving of weight might be obtained by doing away with ammunition passages, water-tight doors and fittings, substituting a tank system of cellular compartments, any one of which could be flooded easily and rapidly, or filled with compressed air by air compressors.

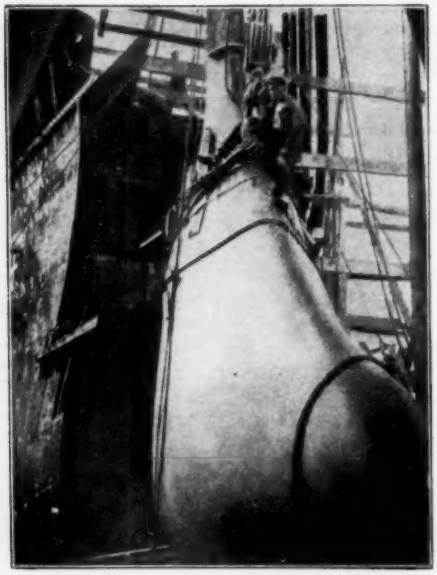
"The interior of a ship having such a tank system should be built in the form of an internal ship, quite 10 to 15 feet from the outer skin, so that the inner skin could not more than slightly be pierced by an explosion. The amount of the water cushion or compressed air protection round the sides of a ship would, of course, have to be calculated so as to allow of a maximum space outside the engines and magazine.

"Battleships and cruisers should be modified and split up into cellular compartments. The center of gravity of each cellular space can be calculated from the designs, and if several compartments on one side of

Hole Made at Waterline by a Japanese Shell

the ship were injured and filled with water, their opposite compensating compartments would be brought into use, and there would still be an ample margin of buoyancy. If large emergency Kingston doors were fitted so that abundant volumes of water could at once be let into special compartments to compensate, however large an injury were made, an even keel could be kept if the compensating compartments were at once flooded.

"No communication should be allowed from one compartment to another, except through manholes (not doors), which can be closed with great rapidity from below and on deck. If doors cannot be eliminated there should be as few as possible, and nearly all communication should be from the upper deck, for every door and hole in a water-tight bulkhead is a grave weakness. Fire mains, electric wires and steam pipes are indiscriminately run through the



The Formidable Ram-Stem

bulkheads, and are often not quite water-tight. All barbettes and similar parts of the ship should be made more water-tight than at present."

It is probable that in the future the ram-stem in battleships will be abolished. Naval authorities argue that were one of our high-speed modern war vessels, while going at a good rate, to ram another ship with intent to sink it, the attacking vessel would herself suffer terrible damage; that guns would be dismounted, rivets loosened and boilers would burst. In short, the vessel would be totally disabled.

The ram was first fitted to vessels of the "Hotspur" class, but since that time, there have been such rapid changes both in speed of warships and in projectiles that the conditions are now entirely different.

BIG RAILWAY CAR-BUILDING PLANT FOR MONTREAL.

Montreal is to have a new car plant representing $3,000,000 capital and with a capacity for turning out 25 wooden cars, 15 steel cars and 15 passenger coaches a day. The works will also have a capacity for steel underframes for 25 cars a day and 30 or 40 steel-truck frames. From 1,500 to 2,000 men will be employed, with a pay roll of from $75,000 to $125,000 per month, and between 500 and 600 tons of material will be handled per day.

DEMAND FOR EXPERT MINING ENGINEERS.

Mining engineering offers an attractive field to the young engineer, not only in opportunities to rise in his profession, but in the financial returns. At the annual meeting of the South Staffordshire (England) Institute of Mining Engineers, the president, Prof. Redmayne, pronounced the problem of deep mining, one which will demand the increasing attention of the profession. He stated that tapered ropes are not necessary down to 5,000 feet; that compressed air can be used where electric coal cutters are dangerous, but the compressors may be operated by electric motors. That the difficult problems in deep mining are heat, ventilation and crush due to pressure. He said:

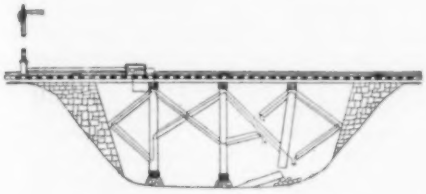
"I know of no other calling, unless it be that of a medical practitioner, which makes so many and great demands upon one's intelligence, physical endurance, and moral strength, as that of mining engineer; for, besides being an all-round miner, he has to have more than an elementary acquaintance of the allied sciences and their applications, and being in daily contact with large bodies of workmen, has to learn to feel for them while working with them. Indeed, he has to be possessed in no small degree of that estimable quality which we name tactfulness; and few men have to be more resourceful in dangerous emergencies."

ELECTRIC RAILWAY POWER FROM GAS ENGINES.

A somewhat unique departure from established methods in electric traction has recently been undertaken at Warren, Pa. The Warren & Jamestown Street Railway Company is equipping an alternating current single-phase electric railway system to operate between Warren, Pa., and Jamestown, N. Y., for which power will be supplied by gas engines operating upon natural gas. The equipment now being constructed will include two gas engines of 500-horsepower each, direct connected to two 260 k. w. generators. Five transformer substations will receive the high tension current from the transmission line and reduce the voltage for use in single-phase motors. The company has operated a portion of its lines for three years with current generated by a gas engine.

AUTOMATIC DANGER SIGNAL FOR BROKEN BRIDGES.

An automatic signal for broken bridges, which will display the danger sign at both sides of the structure and far enough away

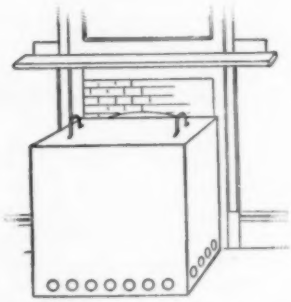


Danger Signal for Broken Bridges.

to enable even the fastest trains to stop in time is suggested in the Locomotive Engineer. The method proposed is a system of electric wires extending along all the principal girders and beams of the entire structure. If any one of these is harmed the wires would break and instantly cause electric danger signals to show at whatever distance and at such points as desired.

HEAT FROM FIREPLACE WITHOUT LIGHT.

To warm a room from a fireplace and at the same time keep the room dark, have a tinner construct a black sheet-iron box or screen, as shown in the cut. The bottom

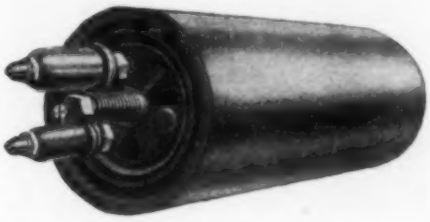


Heat From a Fireplace Without Light.

and side of the box next the fire should be left out. Punch holes around the bottom to admit air to the fire. Nearly as much heat will result, and the smoke and light of the fire will be shut in.

COMBINED MUFFLER AND WHISTLE FOR GAS ENGINES.

A combined muffler and whistle for gas engines is being placed on the market. The head is not rigidly secured to the body, but is held in place by a stiff coiled spring. If an explosion occurs in the muffler the head will be forced out of place sufficiently to permit the excess pressure to escape without doing any damage, and will reseat itself. A chime whistle is placed in the head and sounded by the pressure of the



Combined Muffler and Whistle for Gas Engines.

exhaust, and by turning the head on its axis a sort of butterfly valve cut-out is opened. The device can easily be attached by anyone familiar with the use of gasoline motors.

ELECTRIC MAIL WAGONS IN PARIS.

Many of the mail wagons in Paris are now electric-propelled vehicles, weighing 4,200 pounds, and carry a load of 1,100 pounds of mail. Storage batteries weighing

Electric Cars in Postal Service.

1,320 pounds furnish current sufficient to last for a 37-mile trip. The Motor Age says the new wagons carry twice as much mail as the former horse-drawn vehicles and travel much faster.

This is the North Sea Trawler which Looked to the Russians Like this Japanese Torpedo Boat.

HOW TO PRODUCE COLORED PHOTOGRAPHS OF FERN LEAVES.

A correspondent in the Photo Beacon gives the following details of how to arrange leaves and produce pictures of Nature's coloring: From my collection of leaves, I select those combining beauty of form with transparency, and arrange them in designs according to taste, fixing them with gum on very thin paper. When dry, I wash off with a small brush and cold water any gum that may appear on the surface. To give the paper a rich appearance and make it transparent, I coat the back of the design with a solution—castor oil, methylated spirit and sulphuric ether, in equal proportions. I then press the design between two pieces of blotting-paper. When thoroughly dry, I place it in a photographic printing frame (to which glass is fitted), with the leaves uppermost. On the leaves, I place a sheet of printing-out paper, with, of course, the sensitized side to the leaves, close the frame and expose to the light.

Leaves take two or three days to print unless the sun is strong. They should remain apparently overprinted. When I think the photograph of the design is ready, I take it out of the frame and put it in a bath of hypo for 10 or 15 minutes. This bath soon disposes of the overprinting to which I have referred. No toning is necessary, but after the hypo bath the photograph must be well washed in cold, running water for at least an hour. No camera is required. The first photo produced will be a negative. A positive may be had by using the negative in exactly the same way as the design was used.

HOW TO MEND CRACKED NEGATIVES.

Cracks in negatives, says a writer in Der Amateur Photograph, in which the film has not been damaged, need not be repaired by floating off the film, but can be mended as follows: Over the glass side of the negative a mixture of one part of turpentine and one part of Canada balsam is poured so that it will penetrate into the crack. The surplus is removed by a rag dipped in benzine. In copying, the crack, it is said, will be absolutely invisible. The difficulty of handling such a negative may be overcome by binding it to another plate in lantern slide fashion.

Mitchellite, the New Smokeless Explosive.

Six Times as Strong as Dynamite, but Blasts Out Rock in Any Desired Shape--Safe to Handle--Freezes at 45° Below Zero--Produces No Gas.

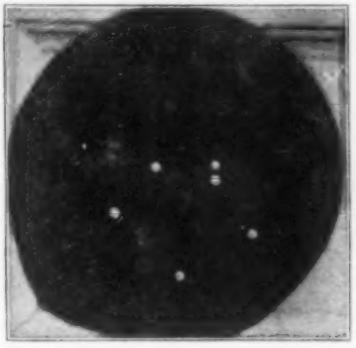
Experiments made recently with a new explosive known as "Mitchellite" indicate the discovery of a substance which is likely to revolutionize one of the most important branches of mechanics. The tests were made on November 24th and 25th at the Joliet quarries of the Western Stone company, under the auspices of the directors of a powder company, the owner of the new explosive, and the expert employed for such tests by the stone company. Results of the tests showed some interesting features connected with "Mitchellite."

A number of blasts were made with different sized charges of the new material and it was found to be possible to loosen the stone in any desired size of blocks according to the number and position of the holes drilled in the stone, the size and character of the cutting being completely controlled by the explosion according to the desire of the experimenters. This is said to be impossible with any other explosive hitherto invented. A tree three feet in diameter was blown out of the ground by the explosion of one half pound of the substance, leaving a hole twenty feet deep and twelve feet across where the tree had stood.

The explosion of "Mitchellite" produces no generation of noxious gases whatever and operators are thus enabled to enter mines or tunnels immediately after a blast has been fired. In using any other kind of explosive in a confined space it is found necessary to suspend operations after a blast for from twenty-five to thirty minutes in order to give the atmosphere a chance to clear.

Used in cartridges "Mitchellite" shows a maximum of penetrative power with a minimum of recoil. A steel bullet fired out of a rifle by means of the substance penetrated a steel rail one half inch in diameter; another was forced entirely through a tree three feet thick and eighteen inches into another placed next to it.

The new explosive resembles coral in appearance, being white and pink in color. It is considerably lighter than dynamite. In the crude state it appears in lumps but in use it is in granulated form somewhat coarser than granulated sugar. It can be fired only by an electric spark with a percussion cap and is thus perfectly safe to handle. When ignited it burns slowly like red fire. It freezes at a temperature of 45 degrees below zero Fahrenheit. (Dynamite and nitro glycerine freeze at 40 degrees above zero Fahrenheit.) Its use, therefore, obviates the necessity and danger of thawing out the explosive in case of freezing. It can be exploded in water as well as dry.



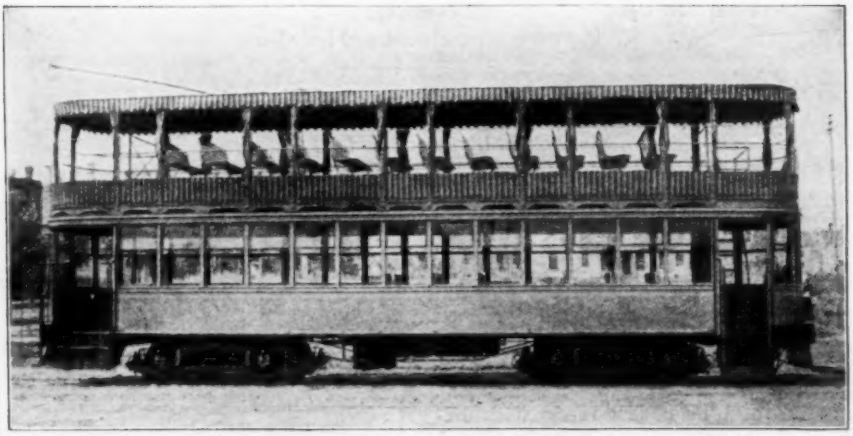
Holes in 1-2 inch Steel Plate, made by Bullets Fired by "Mitchellite"

One half pound of the substance was found to do the work of three pounds of dynamite, showing that it is six times as strong as the latter explosive.

Owing to the destructive effect of the use of dynamite in macerating the underlying strata and thus rendering it useless for future blasting the stone company has abandoned its use, preferring ordinary gunpowder. This objection does not obtain in the use of "Mitchellite," the underlying strata being practically unaffected. At the conclusion of the experiments made at the quarry the company's expert stated that the tests were perfectly satisfactory and that, in his opinion, there was a fortune in the new explosive.

The substance is named after its inventor, a Mr. Mitchell. It was first produced about a year ago and is already on the market at a retail price of twelve cents a pound (four cents cheaper than dynamite.) Analysis failed to fully determine the composition of the material and the secret remains with the inventor.

Novel Double Deck Street Car.



This Car Will Seat 48 People on the Upper Deck.

An open summer car, placed on top of a standard closed street car, is the latest type of double-deckers. Such cars are in use in Minneapolis. The open car portion is thus really a street car without wheels. The upper deck is reached by spiral stairways placed at each end of the closed car. In the winter the upper, or open car, is removed and the ordinary closed car is left. The Street Railway Journal says:

"This car will seat 48 people on the upper deck, in addition to the capacity below of 51 seated and 65 standing. This is a remarkable achievement for a 45-foot car. The entire weight of the car and equipment is only about 26 tons.

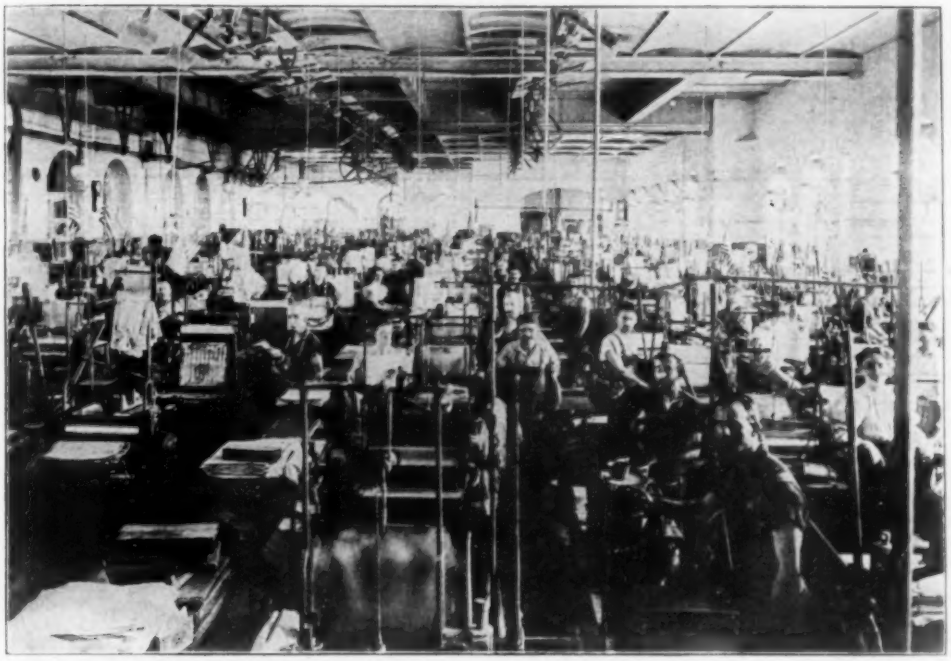
SELLING SUBMARINES TO BELLIGERENTS.

It is common knowledge that several private shipyards in this country have accepted and fulfilled large contracts for submarine boats for both Japan and Russia. This has brought up the question as to whether such contracts are a breach of neutrality on the part of the government of the United States. In this regard a reliable authority on international law says:

"It is fully recognized that a vessel completely armed and in every respect fitted, the moment it receives its crew, to act as a man-of-war, is a proper subject of commerce. There is nothing to prevent its neutral possessor from selling it and undertaking to deliver it in the neutral port or in that of the purchaser, subject to the right of the belligerent to seize it as contraband if he meets it on the high seas or within his enemy's waters. 'There is nothing,' says Mr. Justice Story, delivering the opinion of the United States Supreme Court in the case of Santissima Trinidad, 'in the law of nations that forbids our citizens from sending armed vessels as well as munitions of war to foreign ports for sale. It is a commercial adventure which no nation is bound to prohibit.' If the neutral may sell his vessel when built, he may build it to order, and it must be permissible, as between the belligerent and the neutral state, to give the order which it is permissible to execute. It would appear, therefore, arguing from general principles alone, that a vessel of war may be built, armed and furnished with a minimum navigating crew, and that in this state, provided it has not received a commission, it may clear from a neutral harbor on a confessed voyage to a belligerent port without any infraction of neutrality having been committed."

This is the view repeated in sense by several other authorities. Since the Civil War armed ships, constructed in this country and supplied to foreign countries while in a state of belligerency, have been a common incident of our industrial condition and one to which no exception has been officially taken by any country.

Where Millions of Dollars are Made.



The Great Press Room at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D. C.

The heavy silver and gleaming gold annually converted into the coin of the realm at the government mints, represent but a fraction of the total value in currency, revenue and postage stamps, notes, bonds and other securities which during the year go through the presses of that leviathan institution, the government printing office. Into the numerous buildings, warehouses and offices required to accommodate the Bureau of Printing and Engraving every week-day morning troop thousands of employes, men and women, young, middle-aged, old and aged, people of every degree, character and type up to the number of 3,691. Here they grind out the reports of committees, executives, departments, consuls, in short, all the credentials a great nation presents to the people whose money it expends. Here sometimes, when the stress of national affairs demands it, will be found another gigantic force toiling away the still hours of the night.

Last year there was appropriated for the use of the Bureau, $6,000,000, and now the government is preparing to expend a quarter of a million in enlarging an institution that already includes large stables where are carefully sheltered and cared for the horses used in connection with the printing establishment; printing papers warehouse, whence are issued daily thousands of reams of paper and where is stored with jealous care the paper upon which United States currency is printed and no paper is given out of this warehouse without a certified order; binders' warehouse, where are stored the supplies required in the bindery; a huge foundry, where is plated hundreds of thousands of quarto and octavo pages, and huge vaults for the storing of such plates as are for preservation. These usually include reports of scientific and educational nature, such reports as are apt to be called for a second time. Many plates are remelted after the required number of copies have been printed from them. The vaults have a capacity for upwards of 4,000,000 plates.

Of all the people employed in the government printing offices 2,920 are at work

Counting Currency.

making United States notes, bonds, internal revenue stamps, postage stamps, custom stamps, etc. Naturally the product of such employes is watched and safeguarded by every means possible. All the printing is done on old-fashioned hand presses, each of which requires two operatives. Currency is printed on sheets each of which contain four or five bills, while postage stamps are struck off in sheets of four hundred. The Bureau has many unique machines that almost think. One of these is the wonderful geometrical lathe which makes the intricate designs on the back of bank notes and another is a numbering machine which automatically numbers currency from 1 to 1,000,000,000. The operations of the Bureau are surrounded with every precaution and the newly made money is counted fifty-four times during its transit through the institution.

Engraving Postage Stamps.

In 1902 new designs for both the backs and faces for notes of the denominations of five, ten, fifteen, twenty, fifty and one hundred were engraved and this required that a gigantic force be kept busy day and night. On regular time $3,704,491.65 are paid out annually in salaries to the printing office employes. Much of the printed matter is now regarded as so much unnecessary expense and, probably, its volume will soon be greatly reduced.

A large reserve of United States notes and silver certificates is always kept in the Treasury vaults. Officials are always glad to see this reserve increase, as it gives the certificates time to become well seasoned and adds to their appearance and wearing qualities.

HEAT WITHOUT FUEL.

A colored man of St. Joseph, Mo., has invented an apparatus which he believes will in time do away with combustion for all purposes, except, possibly, foundry furnaces or similar cases where great heat is required.

Friction is the agency which the inventor proposes to use for producing heat and he has built a working model about three feet in length to demonstrate his idea. It consists of a steel tube surrounded by a jacket and inside of the tube a wooden roller cut into four triangular sections and arranged about a steel shaft. The wooden roller is five inches in diameter and the inside of the tube in which it runs is six inches in diameter. The water chamber outside of the tube is ten inches in diameter, leaving four inches in the water chamber.

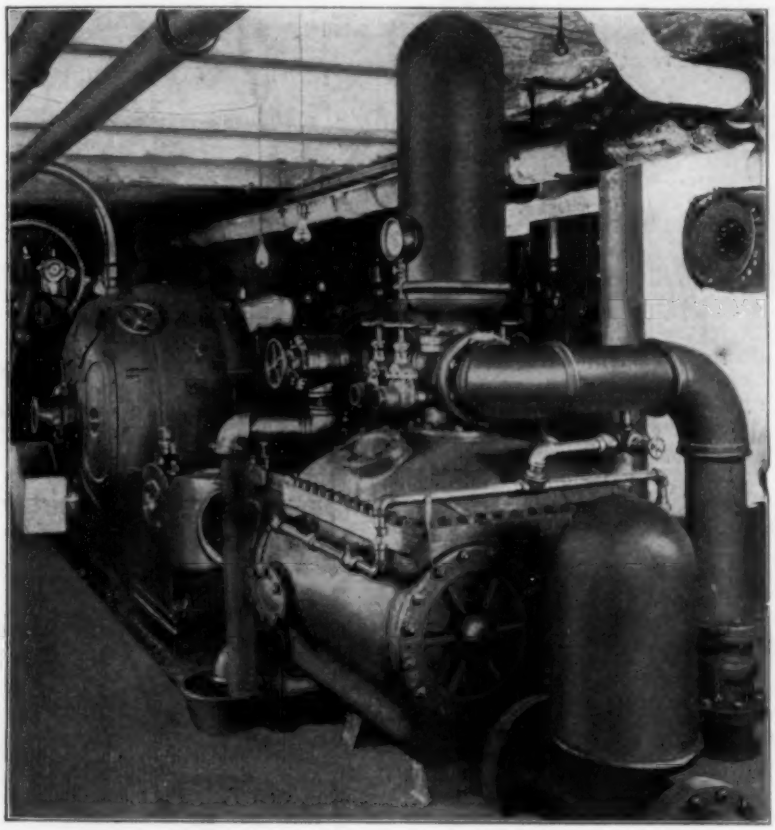
WATCH INSPECTION FOR BIG RAILWAY SYSTEMS.

The duties of a traveling watch inspector for a big railway system are much more arduous than one might imagine. One system pays $18,000 per year for this purpose only. It takes the assistant inspector two years to visit all the inspection points on the lines and each test of a watch lasts 72 hours. If it varies six seconds in that time, it is rejected.

PRIVATE ELECTRIC FIRE APPARATUS.

Many property owners in the business districts of large cities are taking warning from the Baltimore and the Toronto fires and installing private fire protection apparatus. The Baltimore Fire Department admits that many buildings on the immediate margin of the devastated tract were saved only by the effective work of private apparatus. These buildings were supplied with either stand pipes or pumps connected with wet-pipe interior sprinklers and dry-pipe sprinklers for protection from outside fires, storage tanks holding from 1,500 to 15,000 gallons being placed on the roofs. Besides saving the buildings in which they were located these equipments stopped the advance of the fire, and undoubtedly many more buildings would have been destroyed in the absence of their efficient service. The buildings and contents protected by private apparatus in Baltimore were valued at $5,000,000, and at Toronto the saving from private protection was similar in extent.

The advantage is that the apparatus is on the ground in position and ready for action, whereas a fire is usually well under way before the city fire companies can arrive, arrange their hose lines and make necessary couplings and connections. A drenching of the entire building is then often required, while a comparatively small amount of water would have put out the fire in the first place.



Electric Fire Protection Apparatus—Always Ready.

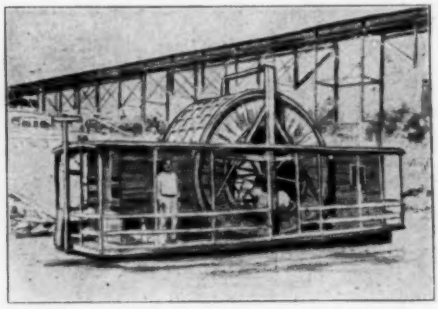
A very interesting installation of private fire protection apparatus was recently made in a big Chicago department store. The apparatus is operated by electric power which is always available in a city and causes the least delay possible. The outfit consists of a duplex pump connected by single-reduction gearing to a water-proof electric motor. The pump cylinders are 8 inches in diameter

by 12 inches stroke, having a theoretical capacity of 700 gallons per minute at 600 R. P. M. against 140 pounds water pressure. The illustration gives a good general idea of the pump, showing the special attachments and the large pressure and vacuum chambers required by insurance companies. The pump is thoroughly rust-proof in all moving or wearing parts, insuring prompt and smooth running when occasion arises. The motor is shunt wound for 220 R. P. M. at 230 volts and is enclosed, all connections being carried through pipes screwed into the frame, so that the device may be flooded without affecting its action. The fields and armature coils are cooled by fans on the armature shaft, the ventilator intake and outlet being visible in the photograph.

With such an apparatus hardly an emergency could arise in which it could not be relied upon. The use of electric power is more economical than steam in that there is no stand-by or maintenance expense.

FLOATING MOTOR HOUSEBOAT ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

Among all the queer craft that have navigated the Mississippi in the vicinity of St. Louis this year, none has attracted more attention than a houseboat which appears to be fitted with a huge paddle wheel almost as large again as the boat, and which is, in fact, a paddle wheel and motor drum combined.



"The Great Wheel is Almost as Large Again as the Boat"

This wheel is 12 feet in diameter, 5½ feet wide and its outer circumference is covered in checkerboard effect with buckets, 3 inches deep, four rows of 32 buckets each extending entirely around the wheel. The boat and the wheel each floats on its own keel. The wheel rests in the water at the center of a catamaran boat platform.

The paddle-wheel-motor-drum is open in the center of each side and in one side has a door through which "Nig," the motor, is admitted. "Nig" is a pony who treads the great wheel and causes it to revolve, thus propelling the boat. He is hitched in a pair of shafts, and climbs the wheel as a squirrel does in a revolving cage.

"Nig" is considered a character among Mississippi rivermen, who all know him. The inventor of the houseboat, Charles Martell, a French Canadian carpenter, believes old wheels of river boats can be utilized in this manner and that such craft will some day cause the Mississippi to teem again with traffic.

AUTOMATIC SCULPTORS.

A Berlin inventor has succeeded in perfecting a new automatic sculptor which copies models in every particular just like the originals. This is the second invention of this nature, but the first works horizontally while this works vertically. The operation of the machine is as follows: The

Statue-Copying Machine in Operation.

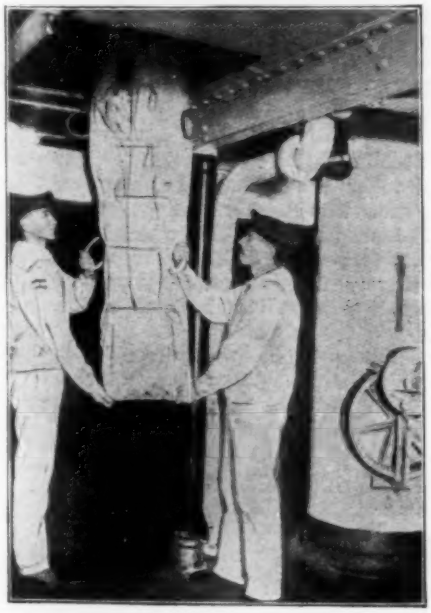
operator swings down the delicately-poised frame on to the dummy; the pointer is hovering over the model to be copied, and instantly the revolving drills cut into the rough blocks of wood or stone, shaping them speedily as the point is moved to and fro. According to the capacity of the machine from two to eight copies may be made of any model in relief or intaglio. The largest machine can do the work of twenty-six highly-paid craftsmen.

ASPHALT PAVING HEATS HORSES' SHOES.

A horse shod with metal shoes should not be driven rapidly on an asphalt pavement. The heat produced will not only be painful to the horse, but may seriously injure him. One of our subscribers recently called to relate his experience in driving on asphalt pavement. He was riding horseback in company with a friend, when the two engaged in a friendly race. After they had gone about a mile, his friend's horse threw a shoe. Going back to the place the rider dismounted and picked up the shoe, which was so hot it not only severely blistered his hand, but did not cool so it could be taken up for several minutes. At each step the horse slips a little, and this constant rapid sliding of the metal shoe, under weight, upon the sand contained in the pavement, generated a high degree of heat.

TRANSPORTING THE WOUNDED ON GERMAN WAR VESSELS.

The German navy has adopted a method of transferring sick or wounded men from one vessel to another or sending them ashore, which is claimed to be very comfortable for the patient and a most convenient way of handling helpless bodies. The device is at least unique.



Sending the Patient up a Steel Chute.

Lacing the Patient in the Canvas Shroud.

The sick man is first laced up in a stout canvas shroud and, after this operation, looks as though he might have been removed from some ancient Egyptian tomb. The back is stiffened so there is no possibility of the patient's bending, and the sides are provided with strong rope handles. The upper rings of the canvas casing are then bent on to the raising tackle, and the sick man is sent up a steel chute in the twinkling of an eye.

INDEX TO 1904.

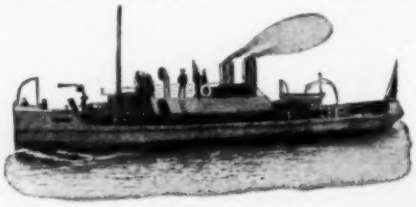
The index to Vol. VI., January to December inclusive, 1904, is now ready and will be mailed free on request to any of our readers who desire to bind their volume.

We have a few remaining bound volumes of 1904, price, express paid, $3.

Indian kerosene oil is not of as good quality as imported oil, but, nevertheless, the importation during the fiscal year ended March 31, 1904, fell off 10,000,000 gallons. Indian oil fields have been developed rapidly and the oil is so cheap that it has secured a ready market.

NEW FIRE BOAT FOR MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL.

A new fire boat, the "Firefly," has been built for the Manchester, England, Ship Canal. It is the largest ever built in England, and cost $50,000. It is 90 feet long



The "Firefly," Fire and Salvage Steamer for Use on the Manchester Ship Canal.

by 23 feet beam, but only draws 3 feet; speed 8 knots; propellers, twin screw type. Two pumps have a capacity of 2,000 gallons, and two salvage pumps, centrifugal type, deliver 2,500 gallons per minute. Two 3½-inch streams were thrown to a height of 100 feet.

THE HYDROVOLVE, A NEW FORM OF WATER WHEEL.

A new water wheel of a construction combining features of both the overshot wheel and the turbine has recently been patented in several countries. The important feature of this new wheel, which is called the

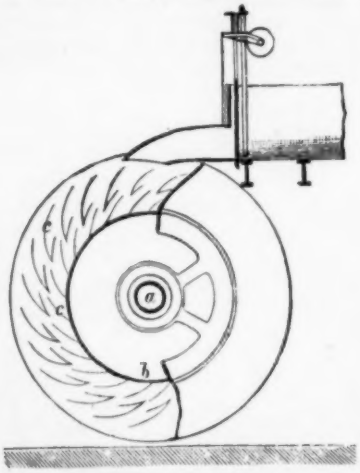


Diagram of Hydrovalve.

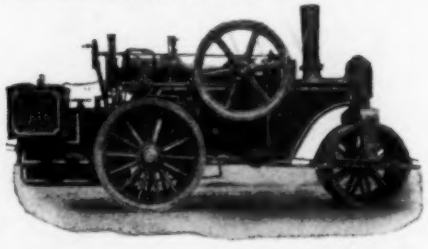
hydrovolve, is the peculiar construction of the buckets which carry the water to the point of exit, where a reactionary effect which utilizes all the remaining force of the water takes place as it leaves the buckets, so that the water in the tail is almost quiet instead of, as with many older types of wheels and with turbines, whirling and swirling, full of unused energy.

The construction of the hydrovolve is shown in the sketch. It consists of a horizontal axis, a, a closed shrouding, b, and a partially closed paddle box, thus forming a circular channel bent around a central point opening out. The paddles and cells, c, within this circular channel are of peculiar construction. There are two rows of buckets, the first of which form cells with the shrouding itself, and the second row being cells of which the inner rims are lower than the outer ones, the walls of the inside circle of buckets forming outlets for this second row. When a pair of these upper cells are filled the water flows over inside the wheel to the next pair of cells and so on through all the pairs of cells in turn to the point of exit. This loads the rim of the wheel to the full half of its periphery and gives a very great starting power. The reactionary effect at the exit is caused by the water passing from the inside over the outer buckets to escape.

The wheel in the sketch is drawn to a scale of 1:40 and is adapted to a fall of 7 feet 2½ inches with a flow of 122,044 cubic inches per second. The dimensions of this wheel are as follows: diameter, 67 inches; depth, 19½ inches; width, 9 feet 10 inches. The wheel develops 54 effective horsepower.

FIRST GASOLINE ROAD ROLLER IN ENGLAND.

The illustration shows the first gasoline road roller which was recently built in England. The machine weighs 16 tons, has a 25-horsepower engine, which consumes 8 gallons per day. The rear wheels are the drivers, and reverse is secured through a double friction clutch. The cooling water is carried in the lower tank shown, and circulation effected by a pump.



The First Gasoline Road Roller

MOTOR BOATS FOR OCEAN RACES.

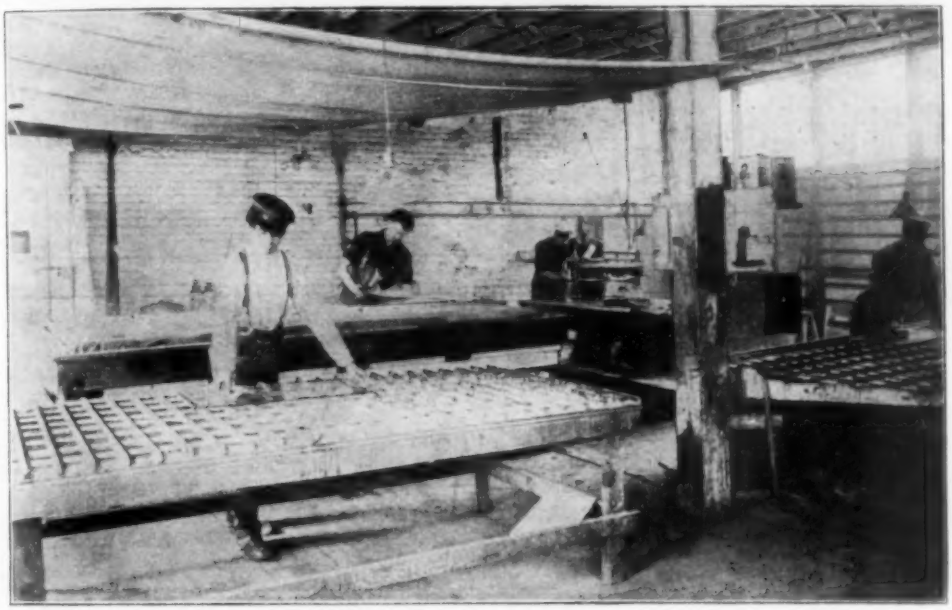
Motor boats for crossing the ocean in the contemplated competition should be nearer 400 feet than 40 feet, declares Mr. W. E. H. Humphries, an Englishman and a practical motorist of wide experience. He says:

"The conditions of the race are that the boats shall be able to travel at a speed of at least 15 knots, shall carry all their own fuel, lubricating oil, and spare parts, and shall start with at least six persons on board. This rules out of the contest all small racing craft. The normal consumption of a petrol engine may be regarded as 1 pint per horsepower per hour, which means that for every 100 horsepower of the engine there is consumed approximately 300 gallons per day. With a 15-knot boat the passage from Havre to New York might be expected to occupy from twelve to fifteen days. Hence for every 100 horsepower of the engine it will be necessary to carry 4,500 gallons of fuel, occupying approximately 723 cubic feet of space and weighing 15 tons, or more, if fuels heavier and less efficient than petrol be employed. To complete the absurdity, the Calais-Dover racer would require, to enable it to cross the Atlantic, a bulk of petrol of greater weight and greater displacement than the boat itself.

HOW MIRRORS ARE MADE.

Silver has Taken the Place of Mercury

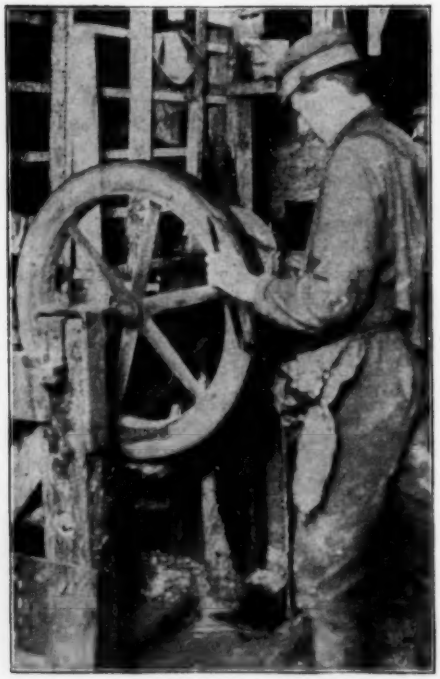
The making of modern mirrors consists first in ridding the glass to be used of all defects and then silvering. If the mirror is to be beveled, additional operations of beveling and preparing the glass precede the silvering. Nowadays silver has, to quite an extent, taken the place of mercury in this industry.



Where the Silvering is Done

In selecting glass suitable for mirrors, the experienced workman, by placing a piece of black cloth behind the glass, and looking through at an angle, quickly discovers all defects. Even the scratches and stains must be removed in the making of a really good mirror. Scratches are removed by holding the glass upon an upright buffing wheel covered with felt. The stains are removed by a device known as a "blocking machine." Unless it is to be beveled a glass free from stains and scratches is ready for silvering.

For beveled mirrors, plate glass is used. The bevel is obtained by holding the glass against a horizontal roughing wheel, sand and water also playing an important part in the operation. The bevel, like the surface, must also be polished. An emery wheel is used to remove the sand and clean the surface. Then after being held against a



Buffing the Beveled Glass.

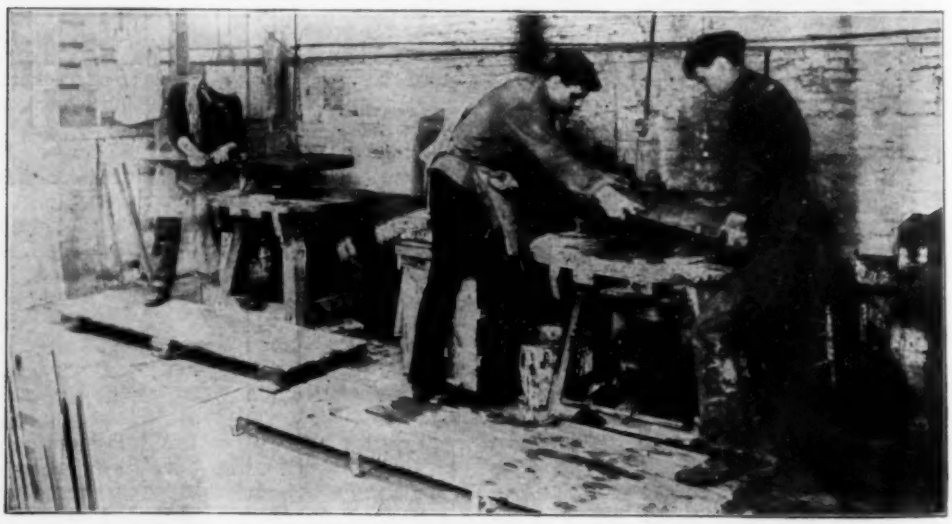
horizontal grindstone, a polishing wheel with pumice stone is used. To brighten the glass, a buffing wheel with rouge upon it is employed.

At least three things are claimed for silver in place of mercury in the making of mirrors. In the first place, that it reflects more light; secondly, that mirrors can be turned out in less time, and, in the third place, that the work is made more healthy for the employes. In silvering a modern mirror, after the glass has been freed from defects and sufficiently polished and washed, a preparation that will hold the silver is poured on. Next the glass is removed to a perfectly smooth table which is heated by steam. As the silver solution is poured upon this table a goodly per cent of it at once begins to adhere, the remainder later being drained off. Over the back, shellac is then applied to keep out the moisture.

In the earlier days of mirror-making, sheets of tin foil were first placed upon the surface of the glass and pressed closely to it, after which it was covered with quicksilver, the quicksilver at once forming an amalgam with the tin. Various methods are employed in making mirrors where quicksilver is used.

GAIN IN QUICKSILVER PRODUCTION IN 1903.

An official report says that the production of quicksilver in the United States during 1903 amounted to 35,620 flasks of 76½ pounds each, valued at $1,544,934, an increase in quantity of 1,329 flasks and in value of $77,086 over 1902. California and Texas mines are the largest producers of the metal.



Holding the Glass Upon the Horizontal Smoothing Wheels.

Low Tide in the Harbor of Panama.

Courtesy of Smithsonian Institution.

Scene at Low Tide in the Harbor of Panama.

In the illustration is shown a most unusual scene characteristic of the harbor of Panama at low tide. Across the little isthmus on the Atlantic side at Colon the range of tide is only one foot, but on the Pacific side it is 20 feet.

During low tide the ships rest on the beach where the loading and unloading is carried on quite as though the place were never covered with deep water. Wagons and horses, native laborers, sailors, boxes and casks crowd the shores. High tide finds them all removed, and the crews and cargoes aboard the vessels ready to be floated again upon the accommodating deep.

NAPHTHALINE AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR GASOLINE.

In countries not so rich as ours in natural supplies of petroleum, a great deal of experimenting is done in an effort to find a substitute for gasoline as fuel in internal combustion motors. As a result, in France automobiles using alcohol as fuel are in competition with those using gasoline and in England, where alcohol is heavily taxed, there is one car in which kerosene has been successfully substituted.

Two French engineers, however, have produced the best substitute yet tried, having perfected a method of using solid fuel—naphthaline. In this system a reservoir contains the fuel which is liquefied and sprayed into the engine cylinder and carries with it enough air to insure proper combustion. The one drawback to this system is that to secure the high temperature required for the vaporization of the solid fuel the preliminary use of gasoline is involved.

Naphthaline is an inexpensive coal tar by-product and is familiar to every one in the form of moth balls.

The ordinary watch cannot be used on submarine boats, but a special watch, the construction of which conforms with the conditions within the underwater craft, is necessary. These watches cost from $75 to $100. None is manufactured in the United States as yet for watchmakers are loth to invest for the first order of them.

CONSTRUCTION OF A GAS TURBINE—ENGLISH INSTITUTE PRONOUNCES UNFAVORABLY.

The success of the steam turbine is stimulating builders of gas engines to perfect a gas turbine. Such a machine in small powers would be welcomed by automobile and launch owners. A 200-horsepower gas turbine is being built by the Stolze Gasturbine Company, of Berlin-Charlottenburg, Germany, to which we are indebted for the particulars given below:

In this engine atmospheric air is compressed to a moderate tension, say 1½ atmos. above atmospheric pressure, and heated afterwards so as to assume a 2 or 2½ fold volume at the same tension, after which the air is allowed to expand down again to atmospheric pressure. The excess of work performed over the absorbed energy is thus due to the increase in volume resulting from the heating.

Two sets of turbines of different design are mounted on a common axle. One of these serves as air compressor, while the other drives the shaft by means of the heated air. Either set consists of several rows of guiding vanes, fitted to the engine casing and of several rows of running vanes of a corresponding design, being fitted to a common rotating cone which turns round along with the shaft. Now, one of these turbine systems sucks in the fresh air, compressing it to a given tension through a preheater (heated with exhaust gases) and driving the greater part of it into a chamber lined with fireproof material. The smaller part is conveyed beneath the grate of a producer where it serves to gasefy a convenient fuel. The gas thus formed penetrates into the chamber alluded to, to be burnt there by the compressed air in suitable burners to carbonic acid and water vapor, while evolving large amounts of heat. These gases next penetrate into the second turbine system, where they are allowed to expand in traversing the various steps, thus yielding useful work.

The process is thus analogous to the cycle performed in all combustion engines, consisting of a suction of air, that is followed by the compression of the same, the mixing with fuel, combustion, expansion and subsequent discharge. A distinguishing feature is, however, that the mixing takes place after compression and the combustion at constant pressure.

On the other hand the Institute of Mechanical Engineers (England), at its October session, expressed its belief that "a gas turbine is, for the time being, at all events, mechanically impossible."

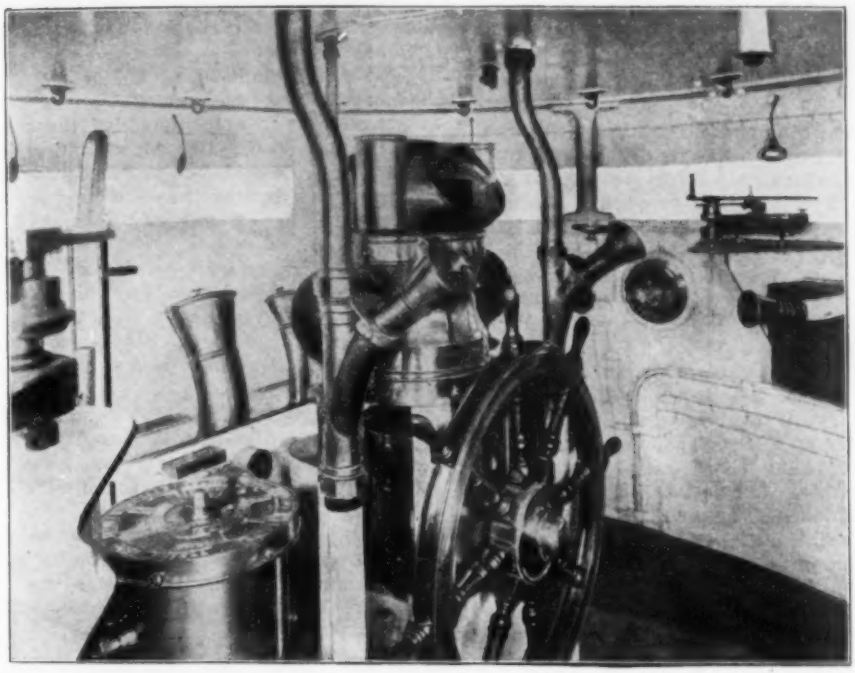
The Engineer, London, says editorially:

"There is not in existence, and possibly never can be, a commercial gas turbine; and the main value of the discussion lies in its power to serve as a guide, and prevent the waste of money on impossible combinations of mechanism. The paramount difficulty lies in the circumstance that the moving gas has to be admitted to the turbine at a temperature which would at once raise the blades to a bright red heat. As the gas must contain free oxygen the steel blades would be "burned" in a few hours. It is true that suggestions were made for the cooling of the blades by water, but we must take account with centrifugal force; and it is very far from easy to see how water could be used without upsetting the very delicate balance of the wheel. So great is the temperature difficulty that we might almost leave the discussion of the questions raised here; but even about impossible engines there are points worth discussing, and it is indisputable that much ingenuity has been manifested by Mr. Parsons and others in trying to devise methods of keeping the wheels cool. For example, the hot gas jet acts at one diameter of the wheel while a cold-water jet is projected on it at another.

"The first condition of success is, of course, that gas shall be available to work the turbine. Now, in a reciprocating engine the gas is fired in a cylinder, behind a piston, and produces driving pressure. Nothing of this kind can take place in the turbine. The only conceivable turbine, we think, driven by gas must be one working on the De Laval principle, because in it a wheel might run red hot, being as it is, so to speak, free 'in the open'; but the material has yet to be found which would endure the centrifugal effort at the temperature. But let it be supposed that all mechanical difficulties were overcome, and that a fireclay turbine were possible, actuated by gas in the condition of a white-hot flame. What would be gained, and how much better would the new machine be than the reciprocating gas engine or the steam turbine?"

Last year the production of asbestos in the United States was 874 tons, compared with 1,005 tons in 1902.

Conning Tower--Brain of the Battleship.



The Conning Tower is the Brain of the Battleship. From this center of intense activity communication leads to every working member of the ship. The engines, rudder, turrets, pumps, guns, torpedoes, signals--all these things are directed from the Conning Tower in time of action. Every part of the ship is made respondent to the touch of a button, the movement of a small lever, or verbal instruction through a perfect system of telephone connection.

The "Autopyrophon," a New Automatic Fire Alarm.

The "autopyrophon" is a small glass tube bent in the shape of a capital U, one-half of which is filled with mercury and the other with some highly volatile liquid, sulphuric ether, for instance. The ends of the tube are closed and one of the upper parts is surrounded by a cover of some non-heat conducting material; both parts are fitted with an electric wire melted into the glass.

This little appartus, which measures 3.94 inches in height, 2.76 inches in width, and .78 inches in depth, is placed at any convenient point in a room. If the temperature of the room rises evenly the mercury in the tube stands at equal heights in both ends and the apparatus is not affected, but should a fire break out and the temperature in the room be suddenly raised the ether above the mercury in the glass tube, which is unprotected, evaporates, the pressure of the generated vapors causes the mercury to sink in the tube and rise in the other part completing the electric circuit and electric alarms at any and as many points as desired are set in motion. The appartus acts for an indefinite length of time and it is not necessary to renew the substances.

W. F. Wright, United States Consul-General at Munich, Germany, who reports this invention, was present at a demonstration in which a fire from a small pile of shavings in an ordinary-sized room acted on the apparatus in eight seconds.

BORING HOLES IN LOG WATER MAINS.

An Eye Witness Tells How It Was Done a Generation Ago.

In the December, 1904, issue of Popular Mechanics appeared a description and illustration of an old log water main used in New York City 107 years ago and recently unearthed there. Many were the surmises as to how the hole through the center of the large log had been bored. W. E. Dale, of Atlanta, Ga., whose father had charge of the plant for boring holes in the logs used in the first waterworks system of Augusta, Ga., sends us some very interesting information on this point.

Boring the holes was accomplished in a lathe-like machine in which the log was made to revolve instead of the boring tool. This machine was in the shape of a half cylinder, tapering to and having a gimlet point at its axis on one end. At the other end a yoke terminated in a shank that bolted on to the tool rod. The boring tool was some 10 or 12 in. long and from 3 to 4 in. in diameter. A cutting edge extended from the base of the gimlet point the entire length of the tool, against which the wood revolved and was cut away and smoothed.

Two double flanged, 2-sectioned cast-iron pulleys, with openings in the hub large enough to girdle the log, rested on a casting having a half-circle concavity with same radius as the pulley face and same width as the face; while the flanges, one of which was toothed, prevented the pulleys from getting out of place.

To operate, the half of each pulley was removed, leaving one-half each on the bed casting. A log was then rolled into them and the other halves put on and bolted together. The log was then centered and secured by wedging inside the hubs; a pinion, working the toothed flange already mentioned, imparted motion to the log. The rear end of the tool or carrier-rod was fastened to a movable frame working on guide rails set so as to guide the tool along the axis of the revolving log.

The operator would first start the tool in while standing near the end of the log, so as to have it enter at the axis, he would then go back and push the tool through by shoving on the frame running on the guide rails.

The manner of coupling the wooden pipes together when putting them down was very simple and effectual. The couplings were of cast iron, some 14 to 16 in. in length, of same calibre as the log pipe, about ¼ in. thick at each end and gradually increasing in thickness from each end to the center, where they were about 1 in. thick and reinforced by a bead.

The logs had been counter-bored for a short distance at each end so as to compensate for the thickness of the cast-iron coupling. In coupling together the last log put down would be forced by levers or jackscrews against the coupling until it had become wedged sufficiently to form a water-tight joint.

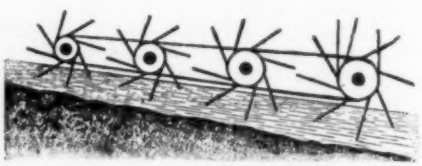
The hydrants were formed by cutting off a piece of the bored log long enough to come 2 or 3 ft. above ground, its lower end connecting with a tee coupling; top end plugged; a hole bored into the center and a spigot driven in.

The pipes were all made from soft yellow pine, 12 to 16 in. diameter, and the springs from which the water came were about three miles from farthest end of the system.

The logs were not peeled or otherwise prepared, except as mentioned, before putting down. This system was in use as late as the '70's as an auxiliary to the more modern system.

MULTIPLYING WATER POWER.

The annexed sketch shows how a German inventor proposes to make the most possible use of flowing water. The plan consists in making the stream operate a series of undershot wheels simultaneously. As these are coupled together, the total power can be collected and transmitted to a shaft or other device.



Multiplies Water Power

The power of the waterfall multiplied into the number of wheels will be that which drives the machinery. In the sketch the wheels are connected together by means of a chain or belting, and one of them transmits the power to a shaft furnished with a flywheel.

SHOP NOTES

PROPER METHOD OF USING SANDPAPER.

Of a piece of mahogany or clean pine about 5¾x3x1 inch make a rubber shaped as in Fig. 1 and glue a piece of sheet cork on the face of the rubber. Fold into three a piece of sandpaper 6 inches wide and 10 inches long and place the face of the rubber on the middle division, the sand side of the paper being downwards. The rubber should be grasped firmly, the ends of the sandpaper being held on its back and sides, as in Fig. 2, and then the work may proceed. This method is recommended by Fred T. Hodgson in his New Hardwood Finishing.

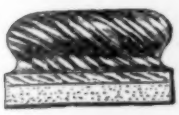


Fig. 1

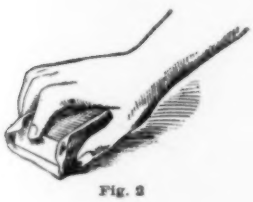


Fig. 2

Another method of making the rubber block is by glueing a piece of rubber belting to a piece of basswood, or a solid rubber about one inch thick may be used.

SOME GOOD PAINTS FOR STACKS AND BOILER FRONTS.

A good paint for this purpose is asphaltum cut down with turpentine to the right consistency; coal tar mixed with graphite and thinned with turpentine is good, also.

Steam pipe used for heating, says a correspondent of the Engineer, should not be painted, but can be given a thin coat of lampblack and linseed oil, which will greatly improve its looks.

A SIMPLE FIRE EXTINGUISHER.

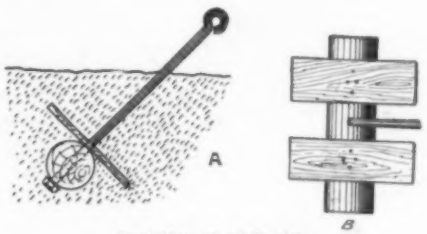
A fire extinguisher easily made and ready at all times for instant use consists of a gallon of water to which is added three pounds of salt and one and one-half pounds of sal ammoniac. Bottle this liquid and when fire breaks out pour it on.

A HANDY CONCRETE FORMULA.

There are a great many formulas and a great many estimates for the cost of concrete, and here is another. A gentleman, who has had some experience, says that good concrete can be laid for about $2.00 to $2.25 per yard. Cellar floors and sidewalk can be laid down, furnishing everything for 12 to 14 cents per square foot super. Foundation work: One part of cement, three parts of plain sharp sand, six parts stone or broken brick so as to pass a 2-in. ring, properly moistened will make a good strong foundation.

THE BEST METHOD OF FASTENING GUY LOGS.

In setting poles, says the American Telephone Journal, guy logs should be placed so as to offer the greatest resistance to the strain. The illustration shows the best method of doing this. To the guy log, B, are fastened two crosspieces as shown, the rod passing through the center of the log and fastened with a nut (Fig. A). Its position is clearly shown in the sketch.



Best Method of Guying

The quantity of pure platinum produced in this country during 1903 was 110 ounces, valued at $2,080. This does not include $6,000 worth of platinum reported as contained in slimes from copper ore from a Wyoming mine. This is an increase of 16 ounces over 1902, but in 1901 the production was 1,408 ounces of refined metal. For two years the average price has been $19 per ounce.

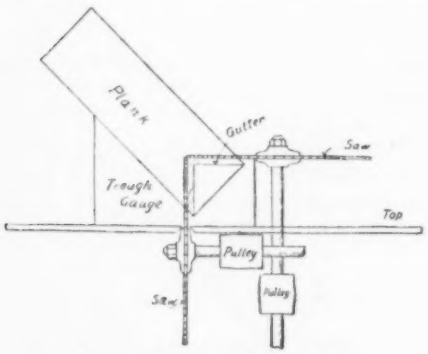
USE OF MURIATIC ACID IN COPPERING STEEL OR IRON.

A few drops of muriatic acid will make copperas take hold of the metal in coppering a surface of steel or iron to take scratch marks, even though the metal be oily. It is not necessary to wait for it to dry; merely wipe off all surplus acid with a rag.

DEVICE FOR CUTTING WOOD GUTTERS.

Ordinarily gutters are cut on a rip saw with one saw and by turning the stock around. The machine for making wood gutters shown in the sketch is a device of a correspondent of the Wood-Worker and by means of it gutters can be cut in just half the usual time.

It is a combination of two saws, one



Device for Sawing Wood Gutters

upright and one horizontal, so that the two cuts can be made at one time. When a plank is started all that is necessary is to return it, repeating the operation. Each time the stock passes over the machine one gutter is made, and the operation is continued until the plank is used up, the only waste being the saw kerf and the corners. The same rig can be attached to a self-feed rip saw and the stock fed by power.

HOW TO CANVAS A BOARD CEILING.

When canvasing a ceiling on which to hang paper, the strips of canvas should first be stitched on the machine into a sheet the size of the ceiling, making each seam about one-half inch, says the Master Painter. The sheet should then be rolled on a pole and the outer edges tacked.

The cloth can be put on so that all the tacks are on the inside and do not show. To do this unroll the cloth a foot beyond the first seam and have an assistant hold the roll back out of the way. Grasp the seam betwen the thumb and finger and stretch the first strip and drive tacks one-fourth of an inch outside the stitches through both thicknesses of the cloth as lapped together to make the seam. Proceed in this manner with each seam in its turn until the ceiling is covered, then stretch and tack across the other sides of the room. The side of the cloth which shows will be stretched clean and smooth and the quarter inch between the seam and the tack will let the cloth give and take as the boards shrink or swell and thus keep the cloth from sagging. This method of putting on cloth is called blind tacking. Unbleached muslin should be used.

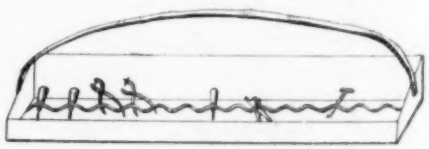
POLISH FOR HOT METAL.

The following polish for hot metal is highly recommended by a correspondent of the Engineer:

Take the ash of anthracite coal from under the grate bars and shake through a fine sieve, then use kerosene oil and mix into a good paste. Use any kind of cloth, and apply this to your cylinder heads and rub very hard. Always rub with the grain of metal so you will not scratch it. Leave the paste on until dry, then use a dry cloth and polish it to suit your taste.

TOOL BOX FOR MILLERS.

For millers or in any trade where such tools as a claw hammer, tack hammer, belt punches, spring punches, screw driver, wire cutter and any number of other small tools are in constant demand the tool box shown in the sketch is especially handy, as the full



Handy Tool Box

outfit of tools can be carried from place to place or from one part of the plant to another, saving delay and trouble. The box should be from 2½ to 3 ft. long by 8 in. wide at the top, says the American Miller. The sketch explains the construction.

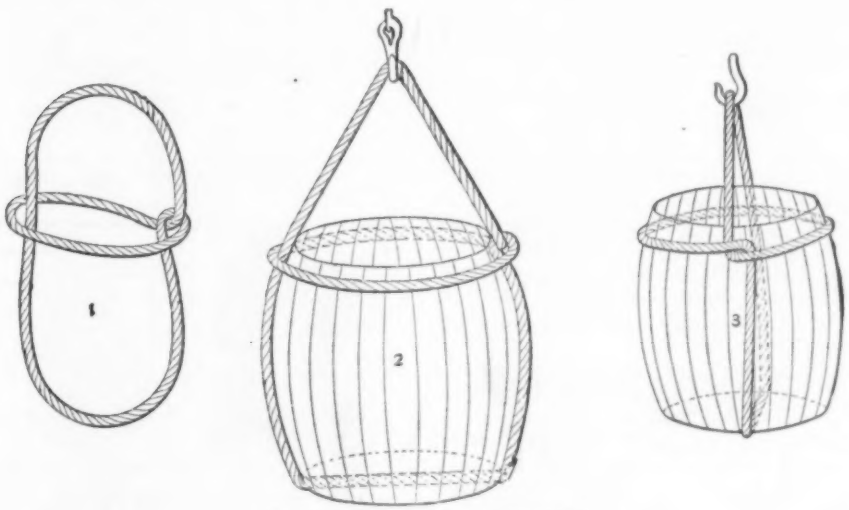
ECONOMICAL METHOD OF GETTING UP STEAM IN AN EXTRA BOILER.

Starting up an extra boiler a couple of times a week for a few hours only naturally would consume a great quantity of coal to get up steam from cold water. A correspondent of Power who faced this difficulty tells how he got around it and had a supply of hot water ready for emergencies also, he says:

"I put a tee on the blow-off pipe and took a branch to the suction of my boiler feed pump, and before starting up would circulate that water in the boiler through my feed water heater into the front head of the boiler and back again for about an hour, thus warming the water up with the exhaust steam from the engines. This also prevented sudden strains on the boiler, due to getting steam up quickly from cold water."

HOW TO SLING A BARREL.

It is sometimes necessary to sling a barrel containing small castings and liquids and with both heads on it is an easy job, says the American Machinist, but with one head out, the average workman handles it very awkwardly and uses a great deal of rope in lashing it. Our sketch shows how it may be done with an ordinary sling and in the simplest manner possible.



Slinging a Cask Having One Head Out

FIRST THING TO DO IN CASE OF ACCIDENT.

Keep cool. Summon a surgeon at once. Send a written message, describing the accident and injury, if possible, in order that the surgeon may know what instruments and remedies to bring.

Remove the patient to a quiet, airy place, where the temperature is comfortable, but never to an engine room, and keep bystanders at a distance. Handle the patient quietly and gently.

Arrange the injured person's body in a comfortable position; injuries to the head require that the head be raised higher than the level of the body; when practical, lay the patient on his back with the limbs straightened out in their usual natural position. Unless the head be injured, have the head on the same level as the body. Loosen the collar, waistband and belts. If the patient should be faint have his head rather lower than his feet. If the arm or leg be injured, it may be slightly raised and laid on a cushion or pillow.

Watch carefully, if unconscious.

If vomiting occurs, turn the patient's body on one side with the head low, so that the matter vomited may not go into the lungs.

If a wound be discovered in a part covered by the clothing, cut the clothing in the seam. Only remove sufficient clothing to

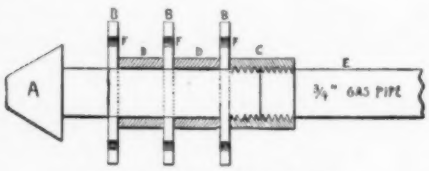
uncover and inspect the wound. In case of burns, pour lukewarm water containing a little baking soda over the clothing before attempting to remove it. All wounds should be covered and dressed as quickly as possible. If a severe bleeding should occur, see that this is stopped, if possible, before the wound is finally dressed. Do not touch the wounds with the hands either during examination or while applying dressings, unless they have been previously made surgically clean. After dressing a wound, do no more to the patient unless necessary to restore him to consciousness or relieve faintness.

If suffering from shock, place him in a comfortable position and await the arrival of the surgeon.

CLEANING CLOGGED PIPES.

The device shown in the sketch is a tool used by a correspondent of Domestic Engineering for cleaning pipes which have become clogged by a deposit of mud.

The tool is made up of a solid bolt of iron, with a conical-shaped head, A, the



Tool for Cleaning Clogged Pipes

point being moderately sharp for driving with a mallet. Washers, B, of not more than 2¼ inches diameter are slipped over the bolt and kept in position by sleeves (D) cut from gas pipe slightly larger than the shank of the bolt. Not less than four holes should be bored in each washer, as at F, to let the water pass and carry out the mud cut loose by the cleaner.

If the joints are properly made up the ¾-inch pipe is best, as it does not weigh as much as the 1-inch and two or three men can handle more feet when cleaning. Bolt A should be about 2 inches between head and the coupling; this enables one to hammer loose if the cleaner should become fastened.

To operate, take the tool and insert at the discharge end of the pipe. First connect on length of pipe, shove and pull until this length gets too short, then add another, and so on up to the limit of your power. With four men over 300 feet in a stretch can be cleaned. Then draw out your cleaner, measure along your pipe line to point it reached, dig out two or three lengths, cut the coupling nearest the discharge, raise the pipe gradually until the free end is above the trench, add a length so as to carry the water away from your pit; then start and work your cleaner as at first, and repeat until the entire line is clean. Bear in mind that each time you cut your pipe the water must be cut off until you are ready to start the cleaner; never attempt to use it until the water is flowing.

REPAIR FOR A CUT JOURNAL.

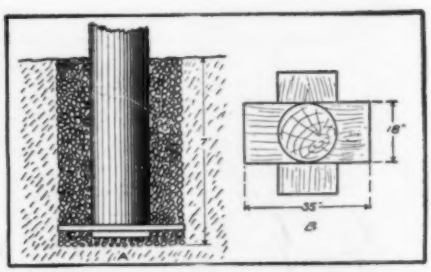
For a hot brass in a locomotive that has cut the axle the following method of treatment is recommended by one of our readers, Harry A. Tradsham, foreman of the Canada Eastern Ry. shops at Gibson, N. B., Canada. He says:

Remove the brass and tin it all over the wearing surface and then drop little daubs of solder all over the tinned surface. This will be found a sure cure for a badly cut journal.

SETTING POLES IN SOFT GROUND.

An excellent method of setting poles in soft ground without sinking them in is given by the American Telephone Journal. It says:

Set the pole in a concrete envelop composed of rubble; one part cement, two parts



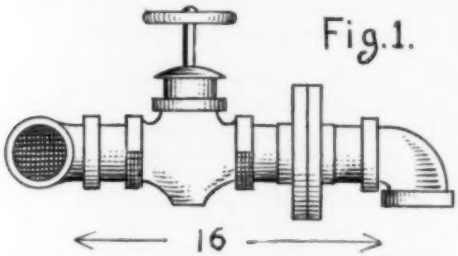
Setting Poles in Soft Ground

sand, and four parts stone. To the bottom of the pole a platform should be attached, as shown in the figure. This eliminates all possibilities of the pole sinking and at the same time the use of the concrete secures a foundation which has a great amount of stability.

SOME PIPE PROBLEMS SOLVED.

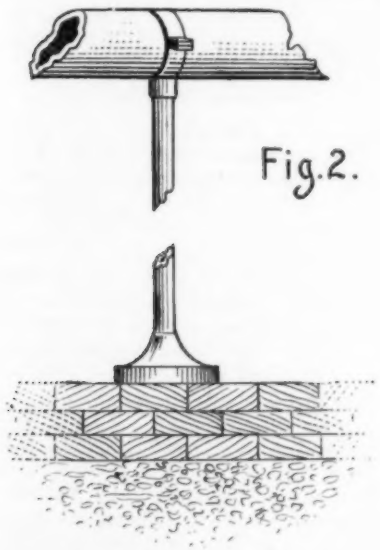
The following kinks, which may be of practical benefit to other workmen, were given by T. F. McMackin in the Engineer:

Fig. 1 represents a difficult job of pipe-



fitting recently done on some boilers installed in New York. The boilers were divided into two sections or batteries, one section being placed in a vault or fire-room directly under the sidewalk, and contained two boilers, one placed on the right of the building. The boiler on the left had just been installed and the steam cut off from that side of the building, the main being kept hot from the boiler on the right, which made it necessary to make connections after 12 o'clock Saturday night.

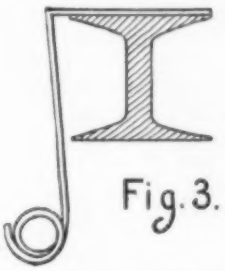
The mains were 4 inches in diameter and



carried cast-iron fittings, the openings between the two tees being only 16 inches apart, as shown. In this instance we had to put in a 4-inch valve, the 4-inch flanges and the necessary nipples. All kinds of short nipples were tried and discarded. The piece containing the valve was made up on the floor several times, but without success, because both pipes were immovable and could not be sprung 1-16 of an inch. The valve measured 7 inches, the flanges 2 inches, and the three nipples 1½ inches. Finally we made up the two halves on the floor, and by means of a crowbar and several blocks of wood we managed to force them into place.

Fig. 2 represents a supporting column for carrying a steam main between two hothouses. The distance between the two houses was 15 feet. The column or stand is composed of pipe and fittings and an ordinary pipe-hanger. The main is 5-inch pipe.

In order to render the column secure, a



hole 2 feet deep was dug and a foundation built by first imbedding broken stone in cement, and laying on this brick in cement. After placing the flange, the whole was covered with cement, which was heaped up cone shaped around the 2-inch pipe as shown.

An improvised pipe-hanger is shown in Fig. 3. This is made by heating and bending a piece of ¾-inch wrought iron or steel about 3 feet long to fit over the I-beam and bending the lower end to receive the pipe. This is a simple and very good hanger for temporary use.

CEMENT FOR CLOSING LEAKS IN IRON PIPE.

The following formula is good for this purpose, but must be used as soon as mixed and rammed tightly into the joint or leak:

Five lb. coarsely powdered iron borings, 2 oz. powdered sal ammoniac, 1 oz. sulphur, and enough water to moisten. This cement hardens rapidly. However, the sulphur may be left out and it will set even more firmly, but require a longer time.

KEYS FOR SHAFTS.

Some Common Errors Which Should Be Avoided

Keys for securing pulleys, hubs, gears, flanges and kindred work on shafting are of several kinds: There are the flat keys, the round keys, the oval keys, the oblong keys and even threaded keys. The flat keys are in use for crank shafts of engines, large-sized gears, while the square key is found in use in machine work requiring extra accurate fitting. The illustrations given will assist in distinguishing the different types of strut and feathered keys as found in every-day service in shops, mills and general manufacturing establishments where modern mechanisms are employed.

Figure 1 is the deep setting square key; Fig. 2 the flat key; Fig. 3 the diamond-shaped key and Fig. 4 the round key; Fig. 5 shows the setting of the square key as at A. It is calculated that the sides of the key will sink equally into either part of the union. These square keys can be made to take a very firm grip if tapered right, so as to drive home to the keyway. The oval or partly rounded form of key at B, Fig. 6, is suitable only in special cases. The extremely accurate adjustments of fine mechanical motions cannot be made with this key, unless the work of the parts is light. The key serves for common purposes in light service, however, and may be found in use quite frequently. The diamond-shaped key is not often used. This is shown at C, Fig. 7. The round key is good enough when the parts are of such nature that a true hole may be drilled. Otherwise the key will wobble in an untrue seat and soon loosen and fall out. This key is used sometimes with a threaded shaft, the hole being tapped accordingly.

Sliding Keys.

The sliding feather is commonly utilized for bearings which are required to move from one side to the other in specific work, such as is required in the case of a clutch. This form of key is also used for spindles for drilling machines in which the shafts or the bosses move. The feather is loose in one seat or the other. Often we find that the combination is made with one key only. In other cases the double key system is used, thereby distributing the service. The feathered key is shown at Fig. 9. This key is not only useful for this purpose, but is the kind employed freely in the set unions and other types of key connections. Figure 10 illustrates another combination sometimes seen in shops and mills. This involves the use of two keys, each made alike, with edges binding one upon the other, and fitted to the coupling, flange, gear or wheel by driving one key at a time each from its own side. The keys thereby bind in the center of the work, and usually quite a substantial grip is afforded on the parts.

The Tapered Key Seat.

It is essential that the keyway be accurate in proportions. Key systems often fail because of the fact that the key seat is untrue. Sometimes the seat is made smaller at one end than the other, with the intention of using a straight key. Through error, a beveled key is driven in, with the result that the parts bind incorrectly. The parts hold a little while and then work apart.

Sometimes the seats are made with a dove-tail idea in mind, as suggested in Fig. 11. This involves the use of a key similarly shaped, with the "head" extended up into the keyway of the opposite part. Then again some machinists employ a keyway of the type exhibited in Fig. 12 for the purpose of utilizing round keys. The round key is driven home and, of course, presents a proportion of the key above the seat line, and this proportion is what grips in the round keyway of the opposing work. These specially formed keys are useful only in the particular cases in which they are employed.

Some Mistreatment of Keys.

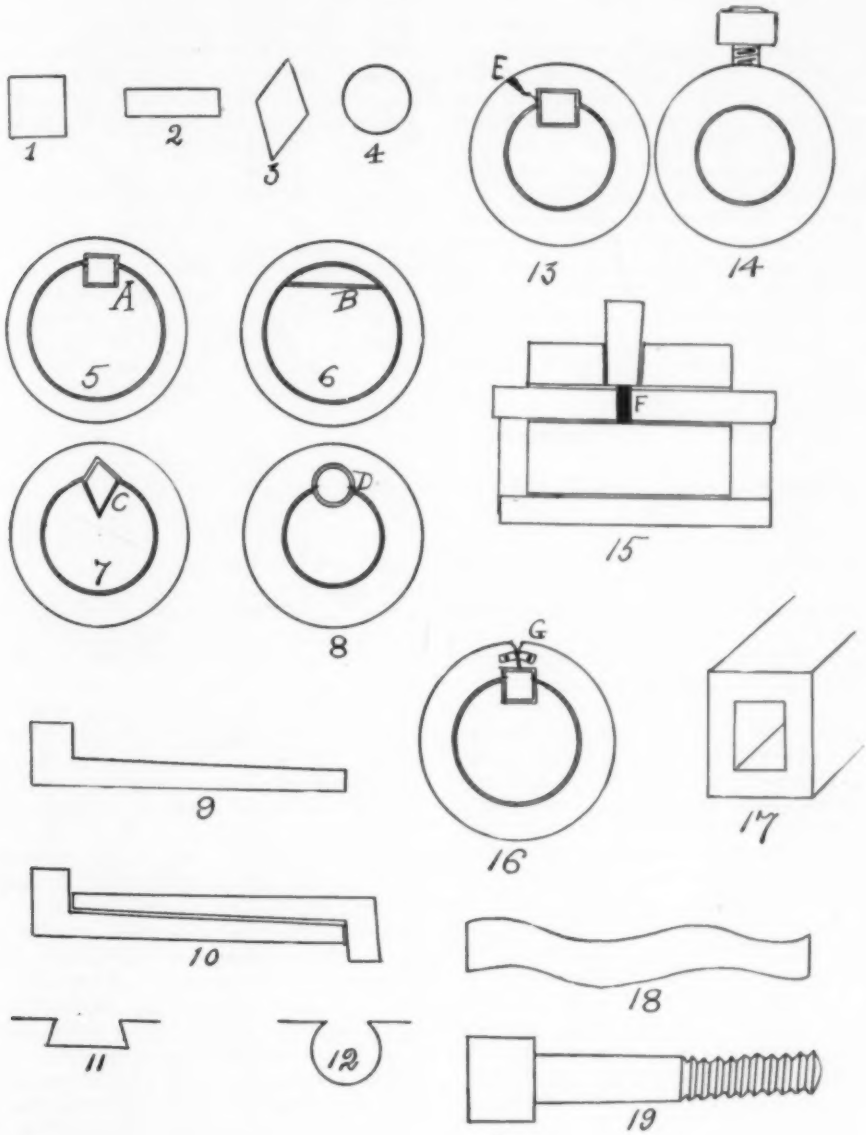
Figure 13 is a sketch of what one often notices in shops and power plants. It seems queer that this should be the case, but often a really good man gets careless, and unthinkingly delivers a blow to the key he is driving with such force that the collar or the hub is cracked as at E. The parts may cling together indefinitely, even though fractured. Then again the fact that the collar or hub is split, will cause the key to loosen and work its way out. Then a new collar must go on. Sometimes no collars are at hand, then the fractured collar must be strengthened with a band of metal shrunk around it. The set screw is utilized in place of the key now and then. In Fig. 14 we show the set screw substituting the key. In certain instances both the key and the set screw are used.

The set screw point is arranged to contact with the key, and this serves to hold the key in position. Fig. 15 is a sectional sketching of a combination given to illustrate

the carelessness of key insertion at times. This error was observed in a first-class shop. The parts were of such nature that the fastening key had to be driven through the sleeves to the shaft, much as pins are

supply produced heating, grating and wearing off of the metal. The arrangement had to be taken apart and restored with proper key-setting.

In another case a patched collar was used



used. The drawing shows the parts at the center bearing where the oil hole is completely closed by the point of the tapering key as at F. This combination ran well for a few weeks, then the stopping of the oil

on a shaft, keyed as in Fig. 16. A piece of strap metal G was riveted over the open parts. This developed a weakness in the collar, so that although tight, the key could not retain a positive bite on the metals, and

constantly worked free. The workman would drive the key home with a blow with the hammer now and then. This collar was substituted finally with a perfect one. A hollowed key is shown in Fig. 17. This was made for a large overshot water-wheel shaft of wood. The key itself is constructed from hardwood, with the hollow fitted with a shaft of metal. Thus the big wooden hub of the overshot wheel is secured to its shaft with a wooden key strengthened with a core of metal. The curved key seems to be a strange affair, still they may be found in use. Fig. 18 is a drawing of the snake-like pattern. This key cannot be driven. The seat for the key is modeled out in both the shaft and the hub of the work to receive the curls, and the curled key is dropped into place. It is curved likewise to suit the conditions of the roundness of shaft and hub. Figure 19 is a set screw made in key form. The key is made first, in rounded form, and then the threads are cut. This style of key is practically a threaded shaft.

"MACHINIST."

A NOVEL WAY OF BUSHING A FLY-WHEEL.

In a certain shop, where I worked some time ago, I was amused as well as interested at a job they were doing, writes one of our readers.

In one department of their works they had about a 22-horsepower steam engine, and for some reason or other the foreman of the department wanted a heavier flywheel put on. Finally a little heavier one was found, being about 4½ feet in diameter, 10-inch face and 3-inch bore. The engine crankshaft was 2½ inches in diameter, consequently it required a bushing ¼ inch thick.

The job of making the bushing was given to the machine shop and within a few hours it was ready. The bushing was put into the flywheel, and the wheel slipped on to the shaft and tightened. (The foreman of the department was standing watching the job without a word, as he had nothing to say over the machinists.) Finally the engine was started, and to the men's surprise the face of the wheel ran out considerably. They at once set aside to make new bushings, and in the meantime our foreman was getting very angry over what he called a bum job and besides the time lost in stopping the engine.

All looked for a warm time when they started to bush it the second time, and certainly were not mistaken. When the second bushing was finished and after considerable time spent in getting the old one off, it was finally placed on the engine again, ready to run. When the engine was started it ran out the same as the old one. They stood and watched it for a few minutes, until the boss got mad and told them to go back to their department, that he could do a better job with a rough sheet-iron bushing. The boys were rather offended at this and said he would never get it bushed to run true. "Well," said Mr.——, "I'll bet any one of you $50 that I will take a rough sheet-iron bushing and bush that wheel to make it run perfectly true." This seemed like a one-sided bet in favor of the boys, and they were overly-anxious to take it, and agreed to do so. The boss gave them until next day to get the money. The next day came, but no money was up by the boys, and the boss must have been in good humor, for he went out to the machine shop and told the several machinists who had helped on the job to come in and he would teach them something free of charge.

He straightway set about and took a piece of ¼-inch boiler plate and bent it around a shaft until it fitted the flywheel (this bushing was not turned on the outside, but left rough), he then put the flywheel on to the shaft and started up. It ran out ten times as badly as the boys' job and, consequently, they all laughed. But, alas! the job was not done yet, and he evidently had started it to see what they would say; at the same time he knew it would be worse. He never said a word, but picked up a piece of chalk, and while yet running marked the wheel where it was out. When they stopped the engine he took a fuller and, by aid of a helper striking, he caulked the side opposite to where it ran out, and by starting and stopping a few times to chalk and true the wheel, he had done the job within three-quarters of an hour after it was placed on the engine, and a more perfectly running flywheel on an engine you never saw.

This job proved very interesting to me and I thought it was well done, and I trust it will interest all who read it. N. M.

The article "Trimming Arc Lamps by Automobile," appearing in our November issue, was by mistake credited to the Western Electrician. This method was first described in the columns of the Bulletin of the New York Edison Company.

LAYING A COPPER ROOF.

A copper roof laid with 140-lb. copper costs, including material and labor, about $35 per square. Such a roof will last a long time. The Metal Worker gives excellent directions for the work. If a rib roof is desired use dressed wood strips 2 in. square, with the strips 20 in. apart. The cuts show manner of turning the edges. The copper is rolled out and 2½ in. turned up square on each side, then ½ in. is turned in square toward the center of the sheet.

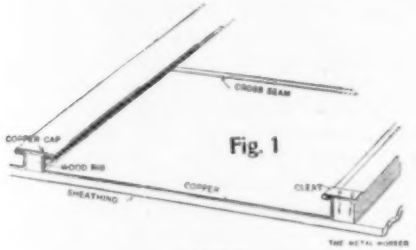


Fig. 1

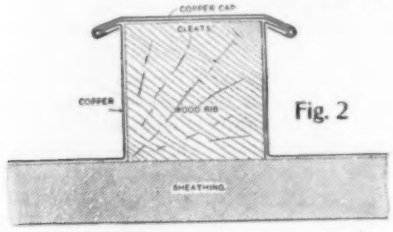


Fig. 2

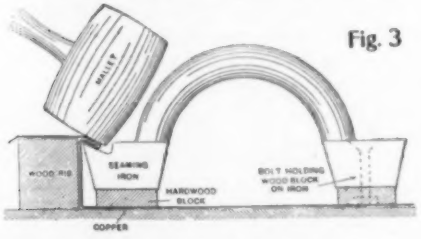


Fig. 3

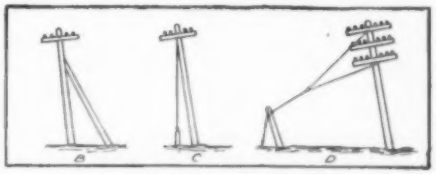
This edge is then cleated at intervals of about 6 or 8 in. to the wood strip. A cap strip of copper, cut about 4 in. wide, is then locked onto the edges of the copper, covering the wood rib and hiding the cleats. No nails should be driven through the copper. The sketch, Fig. 1, shows the method better than any written explanation.

Whether put on with ribs, as above described, or like a standing seam roof, the copper should be put together in rolls the same as tin; only it is preferable to use long sheets instead of 14 or 28-in. sheets, thereby lessening the amount of copper, solder and labor required. If the ribs are spaced 20 in. apart it will be found that there will be required to cover the space from the edge of one rib to the corresponding edge of the other rib, 4 in. for the cap, plus ½ in. on the top of the course, plus 2 in. up against the rib, plus 18 in. to the next rib, plus 2 in. up, plus ½ in. out, or a total of 27 in. is required to cover 20 in., net, of space.

A nice way of closing up the edges after the caps are put on, and also of turning the same down slightly, is to take an ordinary seaming iron, such as is used on tin roofs, drill two holes through it on each side, bolt on hardwood strips on each side, thick enough to raise the iron to the desired height, and then have it channeled out on one edge to the desired bevel. Then, by running it along the seam, the edges can be closed tight with a mallet and turned down to the angle desired at the same time. This operation is shown in the sketch, Fig. 3.

PUSH-GUYING TELEPHONE POLES.

Sometimes in constructing telephone lines a pole is so located that it cannot be guyed directly to the ground, says the American Telephone Journal, and the guy wire must



Push-Guying Poles

be taken across a road. If there is a tree convenient it may be attached to that, but if not it must be push-guyed, as shown in the sketch.

The push guy, B, is a pole set so as to lean towards and against the pole carrying the wires and is firmly fastened to it near its top. The push guy thus serves to push the pole away from the direction of the strain of the wires. A method of guying a pole from a point near its butt by means of an anchor is shown at C, and D shows a "Y" guy for heavy leads.

TO LETTER ON CANVAS.

In lettering on canvas, if the canvas is first dampened with water, the paint will not spread, nor will it dry too soon.

BRAZING CAST IRON.

Brazing cast iron is no longer one of the things which cannot be done. On the contrary, in the hands of an experienced workman the results are extremely satisfactory. In places remote from sources of quick supply the process is almost invaluable. A correspondent in the Blacksmith and Wheelwright tells his method.

We take a hack saw and put into the broken parts like Fig. 1, then we put in

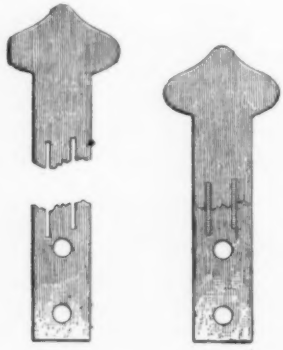


Fig. 1 Fig. 2

Brazing Cast Iron

a piece of steel like Fig. 2 to hold the parts in place while brazing, then place in the forge and apply the brazing compound. Powdered borax will answer the purpose, but leaves more scale on than the brazing compounds. After the iron is heated to a bright red and the flux has flowed over the joints, apply the brazing spelter with an iron (one-fourth inch flattened on one end will do) and heat until the brass flows freely over all parts of the joint; then remove from fire and let cool slowly. If plunged in cold water while hot the sudden contraction may spoil the brazing. We use a three-burner gasoline brazing forge, and can do a much better job on it than can be done in an ordinary forge. There is not as much danger of burning the iron and one can always see what he is doing, besides it makes a much cleaner fire than coal.

We have successfully brazed brass castings and some very difficult iron castings. We do a large amount of boiler work, such as retipping flues, etc., and braze all the flues, making a much neater and stronger job than can be done in welding, and consider this forge as one of the best investments a smith can make, as many times it will save a thresherman or farmer a delay in the busy season. In successfully brazing cast iron all grease should be removed and paint (if there is any) should be removed from the near joint.

AUTOMATIC ELECTRIC CIRCULAR SAW MILL.

A man who owns a large plantation on the island of Sumatra has invented an automatic electric circular saw mill which is a great improvement in this line.

Two kinds of mills have been fitted up—log saws and resaws and in both the saw is fed along the log instead of feeding the log to the saw. In the log saw mill an iron track is made fast to the middle line of the log by means of clamps extending down to grip the center of the log. A carriage bearing a small electric motor runs on this track and on the under carriage is a cross carriage which can be rotated about a vertical axis by means of a handwheel and a screw. This cross carriage bears the principal motor that carries the saw. The small motor feeds the carriage along the track and the large motor runs the saw through the wood during the cut. By means of the cross carriage or slide the saw can be fed across the log the width of the board to be cut plus the kerf and by turning the carriage on the vertical axis the saw can be turned 90 degs. about the axis and makes a cut in the reverse direction at the same speed as in the first cut. This avoids shock at the reversing points and also saves time.

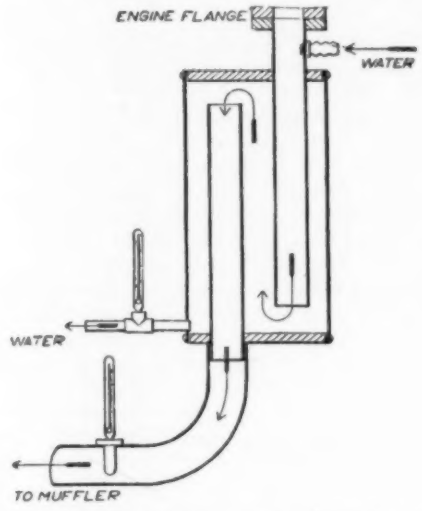
"The resaw," says a correspondent of the Wood-Worker who saw the invention in operation, "is lighter and more simple. The balks or planks are laid on round wooden supports and piled up to the maximum height of one foot. The planks are clamped together. The track and carriage are then set on the pile and fastened thereto by clamp bolts at the ends."

Power can be brought any distance to the machine by insulated wires, in this instance it was brought a distance of 3250 yds. and for small logs 60 h. p. was required.

Twenty-eight-inch logs can be cut by a saw 6 ft. in diameter. For logs larger than this a cut is made to the depth the saw can handle and the saw is then turned 180 degs. about its axis and a cut made from the opposite direction. This is claimed to be the single weak point of the apparatus, for a little lost motion in the machine will cause the kerfs to come blind.

MEASURING WASTE HEAT FROM GAS ENGINES.

A method of measuring waste heat carried off in the exhaust from gas engines consists of a calorimeter mounted in the course of the exhaust gases, close to the engine, in which the gases are cooled by jets



Method of Measuring Waste Heat from Gas Engines

of water in such a way that the temperature of the entering and outflowing water can be readily ascertained. A very simple form of this device is shown in the sketch by means of which the gases from a 10-hp. engine were cooled to 107 deg. F.

The calorific value of the gas supplied to the engine was determined and its quantity measured, while the indicated horsepower, the rise in temperature of the circulating water, and the heat carried off in the exhaust were observed. The engine had a cylinder 7 in. in diameter, and a stroke of 15 in., and ran at 250 revolutions per minute.

The results showed that the jacket water carried off 32 per cent of the heat energy supplied to the engine, the exhaust gases gave up 34.5 per cent to the calorimeter and carried away 1.5 per cent to the chimney, and the indicated work amounted to 26 per cent of the total energy, leaving 6 per cent unaccounted for. The temperature of the gases was reduced to 107 deg. F. in the calorimeter, the jacket water at exit was at a temperature of 105 deg., and the indicated horsepower was 14.2. The missing 6 per cent was mainly attributable to radiation and conduction from the engine.

RECIPES FOR POLISHING BRASS.

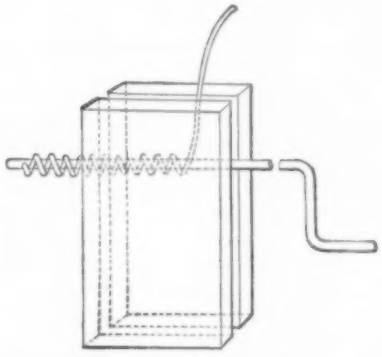
Three parts oxalic acid dissolved in 40 parts hot water; add 100 parts powdered pumice stone, 2 parts oil of turpentine, 12 parts soft soap and 12 parts fat oil.

Or: Four oz. rottenstone, 1 oz. oxalic acid in fine powder, 1½ oz. sweet oil, enough turpentine to make a paste.

SIMPLE METHOD OF WINDING COIL SPRINGS.

Coil springs of any pitch and of wire up to ⅛ inch in diameter may be wound by the simple device shown in the illustration, says a correspondent of the American Machinist. Make a winding mandrel of a piece of iron rod about 1-32 inch smaller than the inside diameter of the spring is to be. Bend a crank on one end and drill a hole for a wire inlet. Near the other end clamp two softwood blocks in the vise with the mandrel in position, small hole up. Insert the wire and turn the crank.

The pitch can be regulated by holding the wire at the proper angle. When the



Winding a Coil Spring.

spring reaches the outside of the blocks it has cut grooves in the wood corresponding to the pitch of the spring. On short springs the pitch can be duplicated, or a spring can be made of any length by opening the vise slightly, pulling back the mandrel and clamping the spring to the mandrel with a lathe dog. Springs made in this way acquire a good polish.

A TABLE OF PRINCIPAL ALLOYS.

A combination of zinc and copper makes bell metal.

A combination of copper and tin makes bronze metal.

A combination of antimony, tin, copper and bismuth makes britannia metal.

A combination of copper and tin makes cannon metal.

A combination of copper and zinc makes Dutch gold.

A combination of copper, nickel and zinc, with sometimes a little iron and tin, makes German silver.

A combination of gold and copper makes standard gold.

A combination of gold, copper and silver, makes old standard gold.

A combination of tin and copper makes gun metal.

A combination of copper and zinc makes mosaic gold.

A combination of tin and lead makes pewter.

A combination of lead and a little arsenic, makes sheet metal.

A combination of silver and copper makes standard silver.

A combination of tin and lead makes solder.

A combination of lead and antimony makes type metal.

A combination of copper and arsenic makes white copper.

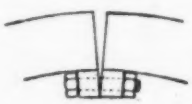
WHY FLYWHEELS BURST.

A simple explanation of the operation of a flywheel in bursting appears editorially in Page's Weekly, London, as follows: The tension upon the rim of a revolving wheel augments as the square of the velocity—that is to say, supposing for the moment that we had a wheel with a rim a foot square, revolving at the rate of 100 feet per second—the material being cast-iron—the total resolved forces tending to tear the rim asunder would be, say 144,000 pounds. Now, imagine this velocity to be increased by the failure of the governor to act, or otherwise, to 150 feet per second, or one and a half times as fast as before—a perfectly possible case—and we have 324,000 pounds to deal with. Double the original speed, and we have 576,000 pounds.

Just one more fact about our hypothetical wheel before we turn these figures to account. Supposing the wheel to break up under the stress due to the last-named speed—200 feet per second—there is energy resident in that rim sufficient to project any part of it which might happen to be discharged vertically 600 feet into the air. This will give some idea of the potential force lying dormant in a flywheel. A well-known American writer who has made this subject his specialty, thus records his opinion: "A flywheel is just as dangerous as a boiler, and should be subject to inspection in like manner. The time to investigate a flywheel is during its lifetime, and the one to investigate it is a trained inspector, who can pronounce intelligently on its safety, or condemn it if dangerous."

The bursting speed of a solid cast-iron rim—i. e., without joints and free from contraction stresses, is about 425 feet per second. If the rim be built up of several parts, the sectional area at the joints may be reduced by recessing for dowels or cramps, to an extent which at once lessens its ultimate strength by one-half. It is too much to expect the joints to be of equal strength with the solid metal, but in proportioning the relative sectional areas of cast-iron rim and steel bolts or cramps it is not difficult to arrange them inversely as their respective tensile strengths, and so obtain the maximum efficiency.

Wheels with deep rims should never be joined by internal flanges and bolts; centrifugal force tends to open the joint and bring a leverage to bear upon the bolts which may be as much as four to one, compared with the same bolts in direct tension.



In the case of thin-rimmed wheels, as rope or belt pulleys, for example, where internal flanges are almost a necessity, this leverage is not nearly so pronounced, but still it exists, and should be taken into account.

Each rim-section of a wheel, built up of segments with the joints midway between the arms, is in the condition of a beam supported at the ends, and uniformly stressed. The maximum bending moment occurs, of course, at the centre of the beam, and consequently the joint is in the least favorable position possible. It should be either at the arm or as near to it as practicable.

Inasmuch as the term Manual Training School is said to be no longer definite, it is suggested that it be called Industrial Art School.

PISTON RINGS.

A correspondent to the National Engineer writes as follows regarding the development of piston rings, and the advantage of steel packing rings over cast-iron rings:

Many years ago railroad master mechanics employed spring steel packing rings in the cylinders of locomotives, and at first they thought they had a good thing. The piston consisted of a spider, a follower, a spring steel bull-ring set out by three elliptic springs and two spring steel packing rings. The packing wore down very rapidly and the engineers were continually complaining of "blowing" pistons, which necessitated constant setting out of the packing. After some time the use of steel rings was abandoned, and babbitted brass packing rings substituted for them, the same spider, etc., being retained. This packing gave better satisfaction than the steel rings, but still it did not completely fill the bill, since the engineers still complained of "blowing" pistons. Later on a man named Dunbar invented a steam packing. This packing was made entirely of cast iron, and consisted of a large number of segments of a circle, and it was set out by the action of the steam in the cylinder. This packing was durable and gave most excellent satisfaction, but there was one objection to it, and only one, but a serious one—it was entirely too expensive to make and fit in the different sized cylinders. After a time a man named Stevenson invented a substitute for Dunbar packing. Stevenson packing consisted of a cast-iron solid bull-ring—that is, the ring was not cut across—and two cast-iron packing rings. The bull-ring was centered on the piston and then pinched in place by the follower. The packing rings were cut across diagonally, and they were set out by their own tension. This packing was cheap to make and gave the best of satisfaction. After a time master mechanics came to the conclusion that they could very well dispense with Stevenson's bull-ring and follower while retaining his cast-iron packing rings. This led to the adoption of the cored solid piston with two grooves sunk in it to admit the packing rings, which, as in the other case, were set out by their own tension. This arrangement makes the cheapest and best piston ever put into a steam engine cylinder. Spring-steel contains but ¾ per cent of carbon, while the iron in a steam engine cylinder contains 3½ per cent of carbon. Thus it will be seen that the packing rings when made of spring-steel—the softer metal—will wear down very rapidly.

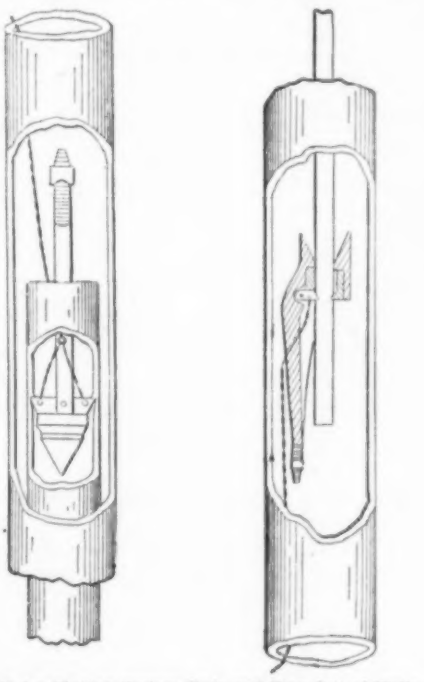
TO PREVENT WATER FROM FREEZING.

A fire insurance company in one of its reports calls attention to the use of chloride of calcium in small quantity at little cost in buckets and pails where the water may freeze in very cold weather. This material can be had on a large scale. It tends not only to prevent freezing but in a certain measure acts like salt in preserving the water from deterioration.

FISHING TOOLS FOR USE IN DEEP WELLS.

The job of fishing broken rods from deep wells has occasioned many a man no end of trouble and loss of time. A correspondent of Power has devised a tool for fishing for rods and another for pipes which he used successfully for this purpose. He says:

"I had a 4-in. pipe 21 ft. long drop to the bottom of my 300-ft. well, wedging itself



Tools for Fishing Broken Rods and Pipe Out of Wells

in a tapered hole. It had a coupling on the lower end and it was no easy matter to pull it. Having broken several tools, I designed this one which did the trick, standing a pressure of about 25 tons on the jacks before it loosened. You will see I have applied the same method for lifting rods. I use different sized bushings for various sized rods. The pawl works against a bearing in the carrier and has an oblong hole so as to relieve the shearing strain on the rivet. The ring on one tool and the bushing on the other are the fulcrum for the pawls to rest on.

POWER REQUIRED FOR AIR LIFT.

The following data may be of interest to readers who have to deal with the air lift, says A. H. Goff of Roswell, N. M., in the Engineer. For the proper working of an air lift a certain amount of submergence is necessary. For the most economical and efficient results a submergence of 60 per cent should be used. That is, 60 per cent of the total length of the water discharge pipe should be below the water level in the well when pumped to its full capacity. For instance, let us assume that in a well 200 feet deep when pumping the water sinks to 40 feet below the surface of the ground, and it is desired to lift the water 20 feet above the surface of the ground. This gives a length of pipe 60 feet to the water level in the well, and, as this does not include the submerged part of the pipe it is only 40 per cent of the total length of water discharge pipe, the total length will, therefore, be 60 feet plus 1½ times 60 or 90 feet submergence, making a total length of 150 feet of water discharge pipe.

RATIO OF WATER TO AIR REQUIRED.

For Lifts Not Exceeding					
25 feet	2	vols. of air	to	1	of water
50 feet	3	vols. of air	to	1	of water
75 feet	4½	vols. of air	to	1	of water
100 feet	6	vols. of air	to	1	of water
125 feet	7½	vols. of air	to	1	of water
150 feet	9	vols. of air	to	1	of water
175 feet	10	vols. of air	to	1	of water
200 feet	12	vols. of air	to	1	of water

VOLUME OF FREE AIR, AIR PRESSURE, SUBMERGENCE AND HORSEPOWER.

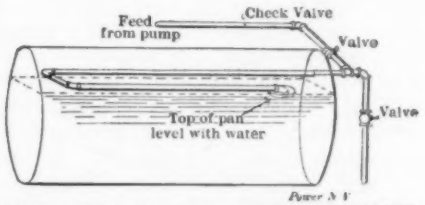
Lift Ft.	Submergence Ft.	Air pressure.	Free air per min Cu. ft. per gal.	I. HP. per gal.
25	38	17	0 3	0.0184
50	75	33	0.4	0 0426
75	113	49	0 6	0.0828
100	150	65	0.8	0.1320
125	188	82	1 0	0.1910
150	225	98	1.2	0.2544
175	263	115	1.4	0.3150
200	300	130	1 6	0.3808

It is not safe, unless under very favorable conditions, to figure on raising the water by the air lift system more than 200 feet above the lowest water level in the well. Nor is it always safe to extend the horizontal discharge more than 500 feet, as the air lift is not adapted to pumping horizontally to any great distance, unless reinforced by a pneumatic direct pressure pump, or an ordinary piston pump. Either of which, however, could be operated by compressed air from the same pipe that supplies the well.

Suppose, for instance, that it is desired to lift 120 gallons of water 100 feet high per minute. It will be seen by the above table that this will require 150 feet submergence, thus making 250 feet of water discharge pipe, 65 pounds air pressure, 96 cubic feet of free air per minute and a compressor developing 15.84 horsepower.

GOOD ARRANGEMENT OF BOILER FEED AND BLOW-OFF.

A very satisfactory arrangement of an internal feed pipe and a blow-off connection is shown in the accompanying sketch. The pipe, which is larger than is generally used, makes a circuit of the boiler, entering at about the water line at the front head and terminating in a pan, the top of which is level with the water line. The feed water passes slowly through the pipe and is heated enough to precipitate much of the scale-forming matter. When the blow-off is opened, says a correspondent of Power, it is surprising to see the amount of mud that will be blown out.



BOILER FEED AND BLOW-OFF ARRANGEMENT.

Bound volumes of Popular Mechanics, limited number, $3.00.

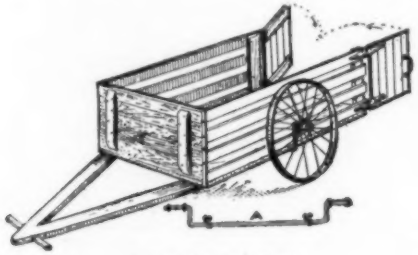
TO MAKE BLUEPRINTS BROWN.

Young as well as older photographers may be interested in learning how to make blueprints turn brown. The method is simple. Dissolve a piece of caustic soda the size of a kernel of corn in about five ounces of water. Immerse the blueprint in this till the print changes to an orange yellow. Then wash the print thoroughly in a bath composed of a heaping teaspoonful of tannic acid dissolved in eight ounces of water. You may leave the print in this mixture till it has become the desired tint of brown, after which thoroughly wash the print and allow it to dry slowly.

HOW TO BUILD A STOCK CART.

Any farmer can make his own stock cart after the manner of the one shown in the illustration and will find it a great convenience whether he has much stock or not.

The cart has a drop axle (A) worked over at a blacksmith forge from two discarded buggy axles. It should be left standard track width and have pieces 1 ft. long inserted near the stubs at each end to form the drop. This is to bring the bed nearer the ground. The bed can be made of any lumber about the farm and should be just the width to fit into the axle



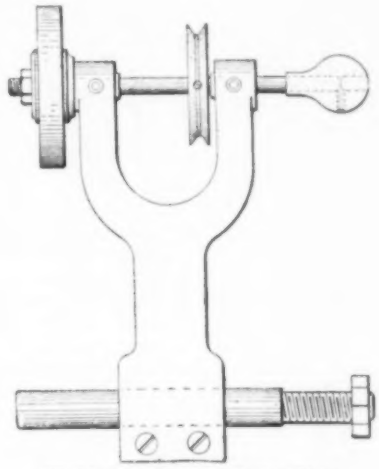
A Handy Stock Cart

and 5 ft. in length, and bolted to the axle near the middle of the bed. Bolt a cart handle on the front and fit the rear with two doors and a strong latch. Mount the whole on wheels and, according to a correspondent of the Ohio Farmer, you will have a "stock chariot" which cannot be surpassed.

This cart can be readily backed up, when mounted upon wheels, to any pen, the rear-end dropped to the ground, doors closed behind, the cart attached to the rear of any other vehicle, and the animals transported as many miles as desired, with ease. By making the front end-gate and cart handle detachable, this "rigging" can be wheeled up to the rear of a wagon and used for a chute in loading hogs or sheep.

DEVICE FOR TRUING COLLECTOR RINGS.

The machine shown in the sketch was fitted up by a correspondent of the Engineer, for truing up badly worn cast-iron rings on



Machine for Truing Collector Rings

a G. E. compensated revolving field alternator. He describes its operation as follows:

The emery wheel is passed across the rings while the machine is running slowly. The wheel is run at a speed of 3000 revolutions per minute by a small motor. It puts the rings in fine shape and saves taking the head to a machine shop. Then, too, while turning the rings they are liable to get out of place. Strips bolted in where the brush-holder is taken off and the rig clamped to the bolt by two screws, the bottom of the casting being split to insure a tight grip, will serve the purpose.

Very few people can draw two different pictures simultaneously, but an Englishman, Sir Edward Landseer, recently proved that he could. With the right hand he drew the profile of a stag's head with antlers, complete, while with the left he drew a horse's head. One drawing was as good as the other and the acts of draftsmanship did not alternate.

Tables Showing the Percentage of Cotton, by Weight, on Magnet Wires of Various Sizes

These Valuable Tables, Which We Have Not Seen Anywhere in Print, are Contributed by W. S. Holmes

RECTANGULAR WIRES.

Single Wound.

Size.	Per Ct.	Size.	Per Ct.	Size.	Per ct.
.070 x .050	.019	.225 x .028	.0175	.350 x .090	.008
.074 x .056	.0175	.232 x .020	.022	.355 x .075	.009
.090 x .054	.017	.240 x .075	.011	.355 x .120	.006
.092 x .050	.0175	.250 x .075	.011	.360 x .100	.007
.095 x .075	.013	.260 x .064	.0105	.360 x .105	.0065
.100 x .050	.015	.270 x .070	.010	.360 x .110	.006
.100 x .065	.014	.280 x .062	.0105	.370 x .064	.0095
.100 x .074	.013	.280 x .095	.007	.375 x. 075	.0085
.100 x .080	.0115	.300 x .080	.009	.375 x. 090	.008
.105 x .090	.011	.300 x .110	.0065	.380 x .095	.0095
.122 x .095	.019	.310 x .060	.012	.380 x .110	.006
.125 x .070	.0125	.320 x .075	.0095	.420 x .115	.006
.125 x .115	.0095	.320 x .082	.009	.435 x .110	.006
.135 x .095	.0095	.320 x .125	.0055	4375x .065	.009
.140 x .505	.015	.330 x .035	.019	.460 x .080	.0085
.200 x .030	.017	.335 x .115	.006	.490 x .105	.006
.200 x .042	.012	.340 x .045	.014	.5625x .084	.008
.200 x .070	.012	.340 x .088	.008	.550 x .110	.0055
.215 x .055	.012	.350 x .080	.009	.675 x .052	.011
.215 x .090	.008				

Round Wires.

No.	Size.	Per ct. S. W.	Per ct. D. W.
2	.2576		.010
3	.2294		.011
4	.2043	.007	.012
5	.1819	.008	.013
6	.1620	.009	.014
7	.1443	.010	.016
8	.1285	.011	.018
9	.1144	.013	.020
10	.1019	.012	.022
11	.0907	.013	.024
12	.0808	.015	.027
13	.0719	.018	.030
14	.0640	.021	.033
15	.0571	.022	.037
16	.0508	.026	.041
17	.0453	.030	.046
18	.0403	.033	.055
19	.0359	.036	.059
20	.0320	.038	.062
21	.0285	.040	.070
22	.0253	.041	.080
23	.0226	.045	.094
24	.0201	.051	.097
25	.0179	.048	.100
26	.0159	.052	.115
27	.0142	.060	.135
28	.0126	.072	.155
29	.0113	.087	.190
30	.0100	.010	.210
31	.0089	.011	.220
32	.0080	.125	.250
33	.0071	.150	.300
34	.0063	.170	.340

Square Wires.

Size.	Per ct. S. W.	Per ct. D. W.
.068 x .068		.026
.064 x .064	.016	.026
.075 x .075	.015	
.072 x .072	.013	
.077 x .077		.023
.081 x .081		.023
.085 x .085	.012	
.0907 x .0907		.021
.098 x .098	.011	
.108 x .108		.017
.1144 x .1144		.019
.120 x .120	.008	
.121 x .121	.008	.017
.128 x .128		.016
.135 x .135		.018
.143 x .143		.013
.162 x .162		.014
.187 x .187		.013
.195 x .195		.013
.325 x .325		.010

RECTANGULAR WIRES.

Double Wound.

Size.	Per ct.
.034 x .071	.026
.092 x .071	.023
.100 x .050	.032
.100 x .063	.028
.100 x .085	.021
.104 x .091	.020
.110 x .096	.019
.120 x .050	.027
.122 x .105	.018
.125 x .040	.034
.125 x .075	.023
.125 x .095	.019
.130 x .070	.025
.130 x .100	.020
.131 x .090	.021
.141 x .100	.017
.141 x .095	.018
.145 x .119	.015
.145 x .128	.015
.150 x .035	.034
.150 x .040	.030
.150 x .100	.018
.150 x .110	.018
.155 x .080	.020
.158 x .142	.015
.160 x .100	.018
.160 x .110	.016
.162 x .127	.015
.170 x .060	.024
.170 x .075	.020
.170 x .090	.020
.170 x .100	.016
.175 x .075	.020
.175 x .109	.015
.176 x .130	.014
.178 x .157	.013
.180 x .040	.029
.180 x .045	.028
.180 x .080	.019
.183 x .077	.020
.185 x .075	.020
.185 x .090	.019
.185 x .125	.014
.187 x .050	.027
.190 x .060	.027
.190 x .145	.013
.192 x .087	.019
.200 x .020	.053
.200 x .035	.032
.200 x .086	.018

Size.	Per Ct.
.200 x .095	.019
.200 x .105	.018
.200 x .120	.015
.210 x .070	.022
.210 x .125	.014
.210 x .155	.011
.215 x .085	.019
.215 x .105	.015
.215 x .140	.013
.219 x .167	.010
.220 x .045	.028
.220 x .070	.022
.220 x .095	.018
.220 x .115	.015
.220 x .120	.014
.220 x .125	.013
.220 x .193	.0095
.225 x .022	.051
.225 x .025	.046
.225 x .055	.027
.230 x .190	.010
.232 x .132	.013
.232 x .162	.011
.232 x .180	.011
.235 x .075	.019
.235 x .085	.018
.240 x .095	.017
.250 x .050	.025
.250 x .062	.021
.250 x .069	.035
.250 x .080	.021
.250 x .093	.017
.250 x .095	.017
.250 x .100	.015
.250 x .125	.014
.260 x .040	.030
.260 x .060	.021
.260 x .100	.017
.265 x .185	.011
.270 x .090	.016
.275 x .110	.018
.280 x .034	.032
.280 x .080	.020
.280 x .115	.014
.280 x .120	.014
.280 x .180	.012
.282 x .063	.020
.290 x .052	.026
.290 x .084	.019
.295 x .115	.014
.300 x .050	.028
.300 x .055	.026
.300 x .080	.019
.300 x .100	.014
.300 x .107	.014

Size.	Per ct.
.300 x .110	.014
.300 x .115	.014
.300 x .120	.014
.300 x .140	.011
.310 x .060	.023
.310 x .065	.022
.310 x .120	.013
.320 x .105	.015
.325 x .160	.011
.340 x .040	.025
.340 x .050	.023
.340 x .060	.022
.340 x .080	.019
.340 x .090	.016
.340 x .100	.014
.340 x .125	.013
.340 x .175	.009
.345 x .100	.014
.350 x .100	.014
.350 x .130	.011
.360 x .085	.018
.365 x .132	.011
.370 x .072	.019
.370 x .100	.014
.370 x .140	.010
.370 x .250	.008
.375 x .070	.019
.375 x .090	.015
.380 x .034	.035
.400 x .029	.038
.400 x .070	.019
.400 x .085	.018
.400 x .090	.015
.400 x .110	.014
.400 x .115	.013
.400 x .140	.010
.415 x .055	.026
.420 x .095	.013
.420 x .125	.011
.450 x .120	.012
.455 x .024	.060
.460 x .070	.019
.475 x .100	.013
.500 x .090	.015
.500 x .095	.013
.500 x .100	.013
.500 x .110	.012
.500 x .120	.012
.520 x .060	.021
.535 x .085	.015
.540 x .125	.011
.550 x .100	.013
.563 x .100	.013
.570 x .125	.011
.575 x .105	.012
.650 x .105	.012

TO BLACKEN BRASS.

A—Nitrate of silver, 120 grains; water, 5 ounces; B—Nitrate of copper, 120 grains; water, 5 ounces. Mix in equal quantities sufficient to cover the piece of metal which has to be blackened. Cleanse the brass of all grease in hot soda water and dip in the above solution, then heat it in an oven until black enough.

WIRE SOLDER.

Tin, one part; lead, one part; bismuth, one-half part. Melt together and pour through a perforated dish onto a stone or metal slab, moving the dish along as the solder runs through and cools. Some prefer to use a funnel with a fine orifice instead of the perforated dish in pouring the solder on slab.

MECHANICS FOR YOUNG AMERICA

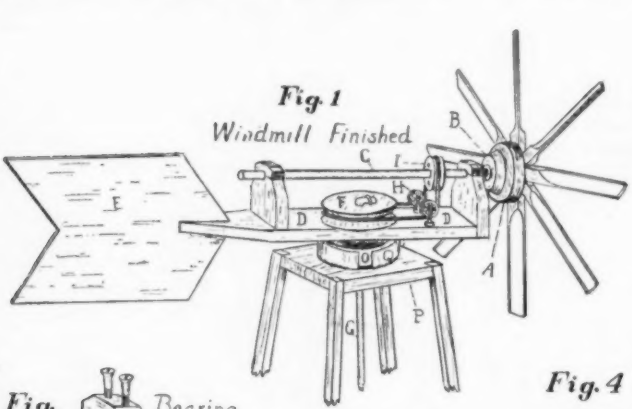
HOW TO MAKE A MINIATURE WINDMILL.

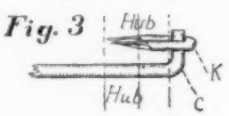
By A. Sheldon Pennoyer..

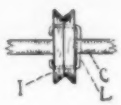
The following description is how a miniature windmill was made, which gave considerable power for its size, even in a light breeze. Its smaller parts, such as blades and pulleys, were constructed of 1-inch sugar pine on account of its softness.

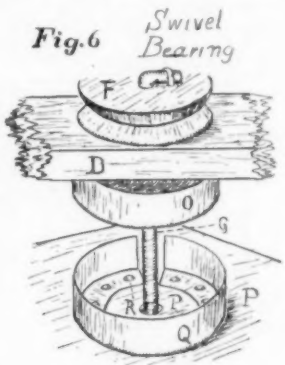
The eight blades were made from pieces 1x1½x12 inches. Two opposite edges were cut away until the blade was about ⅛ inch in thickness. Two inches were left uncut at the hub end. They were then nailed to the circular face plate A, Fig. 1, which was 6 inches in diameter and 1 inch thick. The center of the hub was lengthened by the wooden disk B, Fig. 1, which was nailed to the face plate. The shaft C, Fig. 1, was ¼-inch iron rod, 2 feet long, and turned in the bearings detailed in Fig. 2. J was a nut from a wagon bolt and was placed in the bearing to insure easy running. The bearing blocks were 3 inches wide, 1 inch thick and 3 inches high without the upper half. Both bearings were made in this manner.

Shaft C was keyed to the hub of the wheel, by the method shown in Fig. 3. K, a staple, held the shaft from revolving in the hub. This method was also applied in keying the 5-inch pulley F, to shaft (G, Fig. 1) which extended to the ground. The 2½-inch pulley, I, Fig. 1, was keyed to shaft C, as shown in Fig. 4. The wire L was put through the hole in the axle and the two ends curved so as to pass through the two holes in the pulley, after which they were given a final bend to keep the pulley in place. The method by which the shaft C was kept from working forward is shown in Fig. 5. M, the washer, intervened between the bearing block and the wire N, which was passed through the axle and then bent to prevent its falling out. Two washers were placed on shaft C, between the forward bearing and the hub of the wheel to lessen the friction.









The bed plate D, Fig. 1, was 2 feet long, 3 inches wide and 1 inch thick and was tapered from the rear bearing to the slot in which the fan E was nailed. This fan was made of ¼-inch pine 18 x 12 inches and was cut the shape shown.

The two small iron pulleys with screw bases, H, Fig. 1, were obtained for a small sum from a hardware dealer. Their diameter was 1¼ inches. The belt which transferred the power from shaft C to shaft G was top string, with a section of rubber in it to take up slack. To prevent it from slipping on the two wooden pulleys a rubber band was placed in the grooves of each.

The point for the swivel bearing was determined by balancing the bed plate, with all parts in place, across the thin edge of a board. There a ¼-inch hole was bored in which shaft G turned. To lessen the friction here, washers were placed under pulley F. The swivel bearing was made from two lids of baking powder cans. A section was cut out of one to permit its being enlarged enough to admit the other. The smaller one, O, Fig. 6, was nailed top down, with the sharp edge to the underside of the bed plate, so that the ¼-inch hole for shaft G was in the center. The other lid, G, was tacked, top down also, in the center of the board P, with brass headed furniture tacks, R. Fig. 6, which acted as a smooth surface for the other tin to revolve upon. Holes for shaft G were cut through both lids. Shaft G was but ¼ inch in diameter, but to keep it from rubbing against the board P, a ½-inch hole was bored for it, through the latter.

The tower was made of four 1 x 1 inch strips, 25 feet long. They converged from points on the ground forming an 8-foot square to the board P at the top of the tower. This board was 12 inches square and the corners were notched to admit the strips as shown, Fig. 1. Laths were nailed diagonally between the strips to strengthen the tower laterally. Each strip was screwed to a stake in the ground so that by disconnecting two of them the other two could be used as hinges and the tower could be tipped over and lowered to the ground, as, for instance, when the windmill needed oiling. Bearings for shaft G were placed 5 feet apart in the tower. The power was put to various uses.

HOW TO BUILD AN ICE BOAT.

The season of the ice boat has arrived and this exciting sport is each year becoming more popular. Any one with even small experience in using tools can construct such a craft, and the pleasure many times repays the effort. One of the easiest ice boats to build is described in Sail and Sweep for November, as follows:

Take two pieces of wood 2x6, one 6 feet and the other 8 feet long. At each end of the 6-foot piece and at right angles to it, bolt a piece of hardwood 2x4x12 inches. Round off the lower edge of each piece to fit an old skate. Have a blacksmith bore holes through the top of the skates and screw one of them to each of the pieces of hardwood. These skates must be exactly

A Four-Runner Ice Yacht

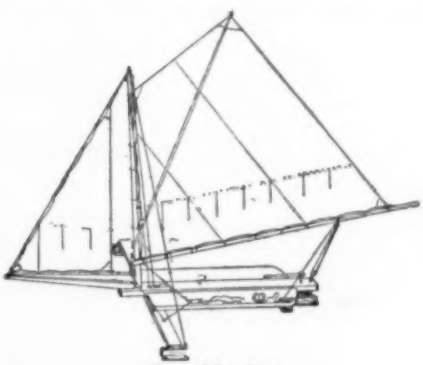
parallel or there will be trouble the first time the craft is used.

Over the middle of the 6-foot piece and at right angles to it, bolt the 8-foot plank, leaving one foot projecting as in Fig. 1.

The rudder skate is fastened to a piece of hardwood 2x2x12 inches as the runners were fastened. This piece should be mortised 3x3x4 inches in the top before the skate is put on. Figure 2 shows the rudder post.

A piece of hardwood 1x6x6 inches should be screwed to the under side of the 8-foot plank at the end with the grain running crosswise. Through this bore a hole 1½ inches in diameter in order that the rudder post may fit nicely. The tiller, Fig. 3, should be of hardwood, and about 8 inches long.

To the under side of the 8-foot plank



Plan of Ice Boat

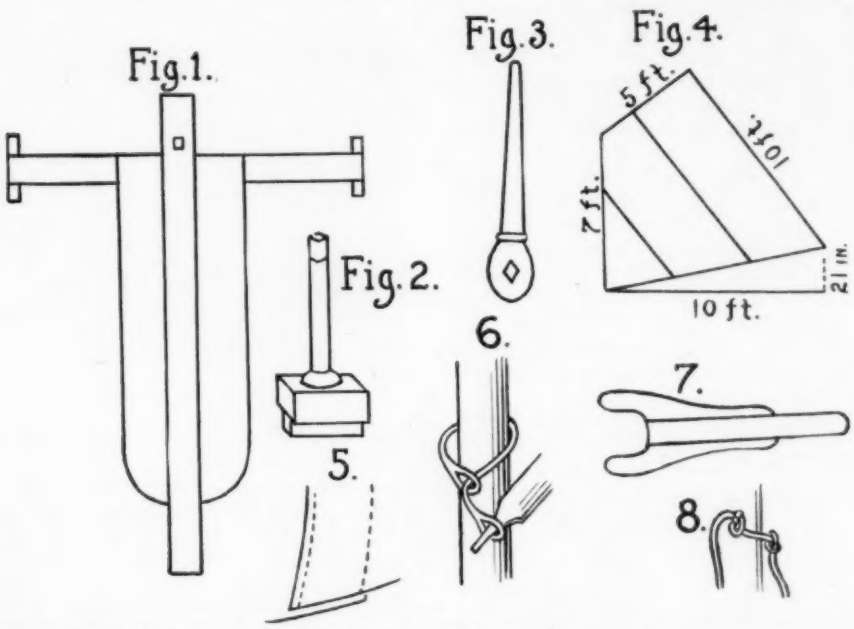
bolt a piece of timber 2x4x22 inches in front of the rudder block, and to this crosspiece and the 6-foot plank nail 8-inch boards to make the platform.

The spar should be 9 feet long and 2½ inches in diameter at the base, tapering to an inch and a half at the top. This fits in the square hole, Fig. 1. The horn should be 5½ feet long, 2x3 at the butt and 1 inch at the end.

Figure 4 gives the shape and dimensions of the mainsail which can be made of muslin. Run the seam on a machine, put a stout cord in the hem and make loops at the corners.

Figure 6 shows the way of rigging the gaff to the spar. Figure 7 shows the method of crotching the main boom and Fig. 8 a reef point knot, which may come in handy in heavy winds.

Make your runners as long as possible, and if a blacksmith will make an iron or steel runner for you, so much the better will be your boat.



Telegram From New York to Chicago Travels 24,000 Miles

Who Can Tell How Long This Message Was in Going from Its Starting Point to Its Destination?

During the first terrific storm of the season which swept the East and cut off all communication between New York and western points, a little message, two words only, was sent from the New York stock exchange to LaSalle St., Chicago, by a new route, to be sure, but one which was wonderful in that every section of it was equal to the emergency. The message, "Market higher," first crossed the Atlantic from New York to London by cable, was wired to Suez, sent to Bombay, hurried to Hong-Kong and then to Yokohama, was again cabled under a mighty ocean, this time the Pacific, via Honolulu to San Francisco, where the telegraph again took up its brief story and rushed it on to Chicago. By the same route the answer, "Give us something," was sent back. And on the two little messages there was more than $50 cable tolls.

The message left the New York stock exchange at just 10 a. m. and arrived at LaSalle street, Chicago, at 11:45 a. m. Allowing for differences in time, how much time did its trip occupy?

ORNAMENTAL METAL GUARDS FOR OPEN FIREPLACES AND HOW TO MAKE THEM.

The making of metal fire grate fronts has proven to be a very interesting and profitable occupation for boys in recent times. Not long ago it was sufficient for the ingenious youth to turn out juvenile windmills, toy houses and various little knickknacks for amusement. The modern lad wants more than this. He desires to turn some of his product into cash. Therefore we present some of the patterns of fire grates which boys have made and can make again from scrap iron, with few tools and devices, and find a ready market for the same as soon as they are made. Fig. 1 is a sketch of a form of fire grate bar or front that is constructed with a series of circles of strip metal. The best way is to go to the hardware store or iron dealers and buy a quantity of ¼-inch, ½-inch and ¾-inch iron, about an ⅛ to 3-16-inch thick. In fact, 1-16-inch metal would do in many cases where the parts are worked out small in size. The ⅛-inch metal is very strong. Then after getting the supply of strip metal in stock, procure the usual type of metal worker's hammer, a cheap anvil, a 9-pound vise, a cold chisel, a file or two, and a round piece of shaft iron, about 3 inches diameter and 2 to 3 feet long. This piece of iron is represented at B, Fig. 2.

The iron is held in position by means of the straps of metal C, C, which are bent over the shaft tightly and grip the board base with set or lag screws as shown. The wooden base should be about 2 inches thick and large enough to make a good support for the iron shaft. The process of bending the rings in this way is as shown. The piece of strip iron is grasped at D. Then with the hammer the iron is gradually worked cold about the mandrel as at E until the perfect form is acquired. After the form is finished, the strip at the terminus of the ring is cut off. In order to get a steady base the wooden part may be bolted to a bench. In Fig. 3 is shown the method of clipping off the completed ring. The cold chisel is held upright, and by delivering several blows with the hammer upon the same, the point is caused to chip through the metal and release the ring. The shaft or mandrel is marked G. The cold chisel is indicated at I and the position where the hand grasps the strip is at H. The final operation in shaping the ring is by driving the protruding cut, lip down, to the common level of the opposite point, thus giving us the finished ring with the lips closed on the mandrel as at J, Fig. 4. These rings can be turned out in this way very speedily. The next operation involves the process of uniting the rings in the plan to shape the design. The design work is often worked out ahead and followed. Some become so proficient that they can develop a design as they proceed.

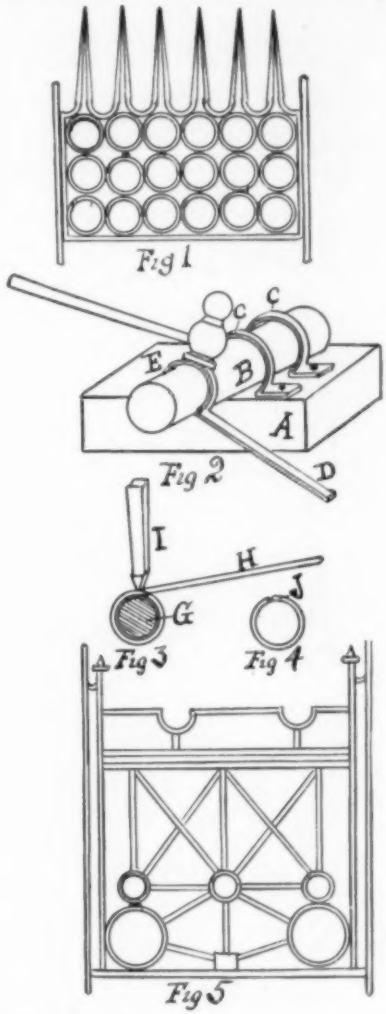


Fig. 1 is a design of grate front used for various purposes in connection with grate fires. The series of rings are united by a rivet between each at the joining point. With thin metal the holes can be punched

with an iron punch and hammer on an anvil where there is a hole to receive the point of the punch after the punch penetrates the metal. For the heavier forms of metal a drill is necessary. A metal drill and brace can be purchased very cheaply for this work. After drilling the holes, the parts are erected and the rivets inserted and

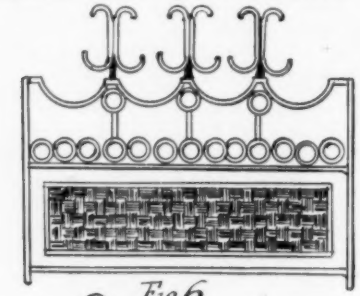


Fig 6

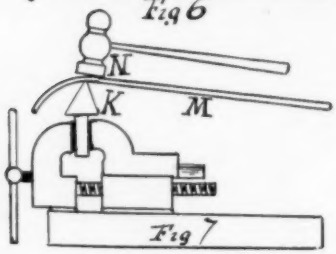


Fig 7

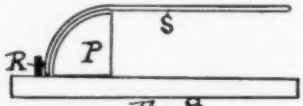


Fig 8

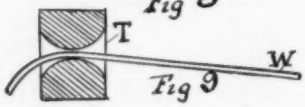


Fig 9

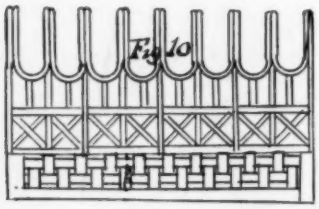


Fig 10

headed up as each addition is made. Thus the series of rings are united and then the side pieces are similarly riveted. The points at the top are then worked out and joined on. These points are filed down to the necessary taper after the union is effected. The finishing work involves smoothing rough places with a file and painting. Asphaltum makes a good black finish. Some of the best designs of grates are bronzed. Some are silvered. The different designs are finished as desired by customers.

Fig. 5 is another design of grate in which the process of shaping the rings is like that in the first design. There are some half circles in this pattern and these are framed by shaping the same about the mandrel with the hammer. In order to get the shoulders close and the circle complete it is necessary to heat the metal. A coke fire can be made in a hole in the ground. Then procure a tin blowpipe and blow the flame against the metal at the point to be bent. This metal will become red hot very soon, and can be bent readily against the anvil and the circular form. Let the metal cool off on the ground after heating. Fig. 6 is another design which can be wrought out. The middle adjustment is wire screen work which may be bought at a hardware store and set into the position shown. Fig. 7 shows a chipping off device useful in connection with this work. Metal chippers can be bought at any tool store. The chipper is placed in the jaws of the vise as at K, and secured there. The strip of metal in process of cutting is marked M. The hammer head is caused to strike the metal just over the cutting edge of the chipper. The quick, hard blow causes the cutting edge to penetrate far enough to sever the piece. Bending cold with a wooden form is done as in Fig. 8. The wooden form is marked P and is about 8 inches wide and 7 inches high, forming a one-sided oval shape. There is a pin R set into the base board of the oval form and the strip of metal for bending is grasped at S and the other end is inserted back of the pin R. By applying pressure, the strip of metal is bent to the form.

Fig. 9 shows the hour-glass wood bending form, made by selecting a piece of hard wood block, about 6 inches square and boring through with an inch bit. Then the hole is shaped hour-glass like. The view is a sectional one. The block is placed in a vise and the strip for bending is inserted as at T.

The strip of metal is grasped at W and can be bent to various forms by exerting pressure. Fig. 10 is another type of fireplace front, constructed by uniting the shaped metal pieces. In fact an almost endless variety of designs can be wrought out after the start is once made. A good way to figure the price on the grate is to add up the costs of the parts and charge about 12 cents per hour for the work.